



'LOOK OUT FOR MY FAMILY'

EXCLUSIVE: Hunter partner tells all on meet with Joe Biden



Reuters



Joe Biden knew about his son Hunter Biden's business dealings and had discussions about them, says Tony Bobulinski (inset), who was involved in negotiating a deal with a Chinese investment firm for the Biden family. In an interview with columnist Michael Goodwin, Bobulinski detailed a 2017 meeting with Joe Biden, his brother James and Hunter, saying that the vice president, out of office just four months, told him, "Look after my family."

GOODWIN: PAGES 4-5



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Blas waits (& waits) to vote

By REUVEN FENTON,
CARL CAMPANILE and AARON FEIS

Punctuality-challenged Mayor de Blasio, who has been known to keep people waiting, met his match on Tuesday, standing in line for 3½ hours in Brooklyn to vote, as he again blasted the Board of Elections for the glacial process.

After joining a blocks-long line snaking around the Park Slope Armory at around 1:20 p.m., Hizzoner first had to endure some heckling from passersby.

“Get to work!” yelled one cyclist. “You’re the worst mayor ever!” intoned another critic walking by.

But the waiting was the hardest part, as de Blasio spent the entire time on his feet before finally casting his ballot at 4:50 p.m.

The mayor — wearing a suit and a blue medical mask — passed the time by gamely gabbing with constituents waiting in line and, toward the end of his wait, dished out slices

from a pizza to those around him.

At first, de Blasio took the wait in his lanky stride.

“Everyone else is waiting,” said the mayor, early in his wait. “They’re doing it because they care and they want to make their voices heard.”

But after finally voting, he grumbled about the sloppy operation, echoing critiques he and Gov. Cuomo made Monday about hours-long lines for early voting across the city.

“That was a long wait, but it was worth it,” he said. “It shouldn’t take so long. I know they print out the ballots. I get that that takes a little extra time. But it’s really lack of machines, lack of personnel, lack of hours. That’s the fundamental problem. They can overcome that.”

First Lady Chirlane McCray, meanwhile, breezed in and out at the same polling place, simply dropping off an absentee ballot.

De Blasio’s firsthand brush with the waiting game came as state elections officials said the city BOE’s



Reuters

POLL IMPOSITION: Famously less-than-prompt Mayor de Blasio queues for nearly four hours on Monday to cast an early ballot in Park Slope.

breakdown ran afoul of state rules.

“While the current voter enthusiasm is higher than anticipated, boards with voter wait times exceeding thirty minutes must work to come into compliance with the early voting wait time standard,” wrote Robert Brehm, co-executive director of the state BOE, in a Monday

missive to the separate city BOE.

Brehm cited a rule approved last year compelling local elections officials to roll out additional equipment at any early-voting site where waits exceed 30 minutes.

The city BOE did not respond to a request for comment.

Additional reporting by Julia Marsh

On party patrol in Hoboken

Hoboken may soon start handing out fines of up to \$1,000 for noisy gatherings that flout the state’s indoor capacity restrictions amid a recent uptick in coronavirus cases, reports say.

The New Jersey city is expected to approve the crack-down on Thursday, allowing cops to issue \$250 to \$1,000 fines for gatherings larger than 25 people, or one-quarter of a building’s occupancy.

“This ordinance, which is fully supported by Police Chief Ken Ferrante, is meant to address a substantial health and safety issue of unruly house parties as it relates to COVID-19 spread, as opposed to peaceful get-togethers, although we strongly discourage gatherings of any type as well beyond household members,” Hoboken Mayor Ravi Bhalla said in a statement.

Still, to get slapped with the fine, the party would have to violate at least one other law, such as a noise ordinance.

Over the past few weekends, cops have broken up numerous Hoboken house parties — the sort of gatherings that have led to a Garden State rise in COVID cases among people in their 20s.

Indoor gatherings have been capped since August, when Gov. Phil Murphy allowed limited indoor dining to resume. *Craig McCarthy*

\$1M slap vs. break-in cop

A white former NYPD cop was ordered to pay \$1 million to a black woman for breaking into her Nashville home and drunkenly berating her with racial slurs in front of her kids.

Federal Judge Eli Richardson on Monday ordered Michael Reynolds to pay Conese Halliburton the sum.

Reynolds, who resigned from the force in January, was attending a bachelor party in Nashville in July 2018 when he busted into Halliburton’s home, believing it was his Airbnb, and told her he’d “break every f-king bone in your f-king neck.”

He pleaded no contest and was sentenced to 15 days in jail. *Craig McCarthy, Wires*



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NEW YORK

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■ Midday Win-4 Tue.: **6617**
■ Evening Nos. Tue.: **818**
■ Evening Win-4 Tue.: **2667**
■ Pick-10 Tue.: **2, 12, 16, 17, 20, 22, 26, 32, 34, 35, 38, 50, 52, 55, 58, 64, 65, 71, 74, 78**
■ Cash-4-Life Tue.: **1, 13, 21, 30, 41**; Cash Ball: **2**
■ Mega Millions Tue.: **6,**

13, 34, 46, 62; Mega Ball: **1**; Megaplier: **x3**
■ Take-5 Tue.: **2, 8, 10, 23, 32**

NEW JERSEY

Pick-3 Tue.: **625**; Fireball: **8**
Pick-4 Tue.: **5887**; Fireball: **8**
Cash-5 Xtra Tue.: **2, 13, 19, 24, 27**; Xtra: **2**

CONNECTICUT

Play-3 Tue.: **407**
Play-4 Tue.: **1281**
Cash-5 Tue.: **5, 6, 17, 20, 21**
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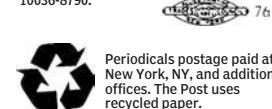
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50 CENT

Yields to Chelsea Handler.

Fiddy's ex made him dump Don

Chelsea Handler bullied ex-boyfriend 50 Cent into renouncing his support for President Trump.

After the Queens-born rapper, born Curtis Jackson, announced last week that Joe Biden's tax plan, with a purported top tax rate of 62 percent in New York City, had convinced him to back Trump, Handler began her crusade with a tweet.

"You used to be my favorite ex-boyfriend," she wrote in reply to a tweet by Fiddy on his political decision. She later took her case to "The Tonight Show," telling Jimmy Fallon that she had to remind the rapper "that he was a black person, so he can't vote for Donald Trump, and that he shouldn't be influencing an entire swath of people who may listen to him because he's worried about his own personal pocketbook."

Fiddy shared the clip the next day, saying, "F--k Donald Trump, I never liked him."

Now, Handler says, it's "#mycivicduty" to get her ex to vote Biden. *Emily Jacobs*

Borat haters make 'nice'

Kazakhstan, which banned the first "Borat" movie in 2006 and threatened to sue creator Sacha Baron Cohen, now is embracing Borat's catchphrase, "very nice," as a tourism slogan.

In ads highlighting local scenery and culture, people repeatedly say, "Very nice."

Critics still hate Kazakhstan's portrayal as racist and sexist in the sequel, "Borat Subsequent Moviefilm." But the tourist board called the ads a "great way to take the publicity created by a comedian and turn it to a positive message." *Yaron Steinbuch*



WATER WORKS

By HANNAH FRISHBERG

It was an office prank worthy of being talked about at the water cooler.

Earlier this month, a desk-equipped raft could be seen floating between Brooklyn and Manhattan.

Its creators — the nautical nonprofit Tideland Institute and the chaos-loving comedy group Improv Everywhere — dubbed it "New York's Most Socially Distanced Office."

"We thought the middle of the East River was about as far as you could get from other people in New York City," Improv Everywhere's Charlie Todd told The Post.

After hearing about an improvised jazz concert that Tideland held in a sewer tunnel two months ago, Todd reached out to the group's co-founder, N.D. Austin, about collaborating on a coronavi-

rus-safe stunt.

Using entirely donated and scavenged materials, the organizations created a raft and outfitted it with office furniture, including a battery-powered computer and an actual water cooler.

On Oct. 10, they anchored it off the shore of Dumbo — where it was immediately swarmed by curious jet skiers — before shuttling Improv Everywhere collaborator Jesse Good to his new "office," where he promptly hopped on a Zoom call.

Back on shore, another Improv Everywhere "agent" posed as an NYC Department of Buildings employee and asked amused observers what they thought about the city's pilot program, which she claimed would build 10,000 floating offices on the East and Hudson rivers by summer.

A construction sign attached to a park fence showed a Photoshopped rendering of the project's final re-

sult. Tideland co-founder Danielle Isadora Butler at one point canoed over a snack selection.

On land, people gawked and laughed. And online, TikTok and Instagram clips of the waterborne work setup went viral.

"A ferry stopped at one point — the captain was leaning out the window, ogling. The fire department stopped, too, and took photos," said Austin.

"I really felt it spoke to the idea that if you build it, they will come," said Butler, who was so inspired by her visit to the buoyant bureau that she now has "plans to make one — it was really quite lovely."

In addition to spreading smiles, both groups hope the stunt inspires New Yorkers to make better use of their waterways.

"Part of the mission of the project is just to remind people that there's a river. It exists, belongs to us and we can express ourselves on it," said Todd.

FLOATS HIS BOAT: Comedy group Improv Everywhere created "New York's Most Socially Distanced Office." Collaborator Jesse Good (right) held a Zoom meeting from the satellite office, which had working equipment.



Thomas Concordia (2)

The groups' founders hope the pandemic, and the limitations it's put on indoor spaces, will help fuel a rebirth of the city's waterways by reminding people that they are an outdoor resource.

"I do feel that the harbor is going through a creative renaissance in that more people than ever are treating it respectfully and like an actual part of the city rather than a leprous thing you don't want to touch," said Austin, adding that a 2017 study found that the water is the cleanest it's been in over a century.

The harbor, he said, doesn't have to be neglected — or monopolized by tourist cruises and barges.

"New York is so incredibly crowded, and yet the water is so empty," said Austin. "Even though we all live on islands, New Yorkers don't treat the water like a place you can go to. But the harbor belongs to everybody."

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THE BIDEN FILES

'YOU'LL BURY US ALL' Warning to Tony

By BRUCE GOLDING

A former Hunter Biden business partner said Tuesday he was warned against going public with information about their business dealings when another ex-partner told him: "You're just going to bury all of us."

During an appearance on Fox News, Tony Bobulinski said he spoke with former partner Rob Walker to demand that he get US Rep. Adam Schiff (D-California) to retract his claim that The Post's recent reporting on Hunter Biden's e-mails was part of a Russian-orchestrated "smear on Joe Biden."

Host Tucker Carlson then played a snippet of an audio recording that Bobulinski said was part of the phone conversation.

"If he doesn't come out, on record, I am providing the facts," Bobulinski said.

"Ah, Tony, you're just going to bury all of us, man," Walker responded.

Bobulinski, a former US Navy lieutenant, said he was outraged by Schiff's Oct. 16 comments on CNN, where Schiff attacked The Post's exposés.

"We know that this whole smear on Joe Biden comes from the Kremlin," Schiff claimed.

Bobulinski said he knew the e-mails were authentic because he had received one, dated May 13, 2017, that outlined a plan to have 10 percent in their company, Oneida Hold-

ings, "held by H for the big guy?"

"To have a congressman out there, speaking about Russian disinformation... to say that and associate that with my name, is absolutely disgusting to me," Bobulinski said.

Bobulinski has previously said that the "H" in the e-mail — which involved a pending deal with China's largest private energy company — stood for Hunter Biden and that his dad, Joe, was "the big guy."

Bobulinski said Tuesday that "a single phone call from Joe Biden" could have gotten Schiff to retract his remark and that he had hoped that "the Bidens would do the right thing."

But while Walker, a former official in the Bill Clinton and George W. Bush administrations, promised to "make some calls," he "sort of presented it as if that's going to be impossible," Bobulinski said.

Bobulinski also said that Joe Biden's brother, Jim Biden, ultimately wound up with a 20 percent stake in Oneida Holdings after the 2017 e-mail said he would get only 10.

"What I'd ask the American people to read and look at is how... did Jim Biden go from a 10 percent owner to a 20 percent owner?" he said.

Walker, the Biden campaign, Hunter Biden's lawyer and Jim Biden all did not return e-mails seeking comment.



MICHAEL GOODWIN

FOR Tony Bobulinski, the meetings with Joe Biden are unforgettable, and not because they had anything to do with politics. It's because that's when Bobulinski fully understood that Joe was very much involved in the foreign business schemes that son Hunter Biden and Joe's brother Jim had cooked up.

The final proof came during two conversations over two days in May 2017. He first met the former vice president in the lobby of the Beverly Hilton Hotel, where Joe was to speak the next day at the Milken Conference on the "moonshot project" of finding a cure for cancer.

"Hunter and Jim and I are there, and Hunter gets up and talks to his father when he comes in," Bobulinski told me in a Tuesday interview. "He then brings Joe over and introduces me, saying he's the one who's helping us with the business we're doing with the Chinese."

If Joe Biden was honest with the public when he said he never discussed Hunter's business with him, the next words out of his mouth would have been, "What business with the Chinese? What are you talking about, son?"

But that's not what he said, according to Bobulinski (near right). Joe Biden didn't look surprised or curious about Hunter's introduction and, after a get-to-know-you conversation, Bobulinski remembers Joe saying, "My son and my brother trust you emphatically so I trust you. Good luck and work hard."

Joe liked him, Hunter and Jim later said, which Bobulinski took as an official seal of approval.

The next morning, after the speech, Bobulinski says he was ushered backstage to greet Joe Biden again, then walked him to his car. He recalls the former veep's parting remark as, "Keep an eye on my son and brother and look out for my family."

He said he then spent two hours with Jim Biden in the hotel, mostly listening to stories about the family and their other business dealings.

At one point, Bobulinski says he asks if the family isn't concerned that Joe will run for president in 2020.

"I said, 'Jim, how are you guys doing this, this seems crazy?' He looks

'Keep an



Fox News

Hunter's biz

at me and kind of chuckles and says, 'plausible deniability.'"

When I asked him Tuesday by phone if there is any doubt in his mind that Joe Biden was deeply involved in the deals, Bobulinski says absolutely not. "I was only there because I would be running the family business. Why else would he even talk to me?"

That's a great question, one of many that the Bidens have ducked. Another involves the notorious e-mail where a partner in their since-dissolved business reviews the equity divisions, noting that, among other things, Hunter Biden gets 20 percent, Jim Biden, Joe's brother, gets 10 percent and Hunter will hold 10 "for the big guy?"

Bobulinski has been saying for days

that Joe Biden is "the big guy," and neither the Biden campaign nor anyone in the family has specifically denied it. Yet such is the sorry state of public affairs in America that the tech censors block reports in The Post and elsewhere on the subject and major media outlets don't even press the presidential front-runner to come clean.

It's not for a lack of trying on Bobulinski's effort.

The burly former wrestler at Penn State, Navy lieutenant and self-described "American patriot" first went public last week, making successive statements Wednesday and Thursday and provided to journalists reams of e-mails, messages and texts covering nearly three years.

Since then, he met with the FBI,

THE BIDEN FILES

eye on my son'



partner recalls meetings with Joe

Getty Images

where he turned over three phones, and two Senate committees. Asked if he has a formal agreement with the FBI, Bobulinski answered quickly, "I'm a material witness, I don't need an agreement, I've done nothing wrong. I have zero concern."

He exudes a sense of mission — and anger. It's been building since he learned in September from a Senate report that Hunter Biden got \$5 million in what appears to be a silent side deal from the same Chinese executives with whom Bobulinski had been working.

Then, when The Post published e-mails from the laptop Hunter left at a Delaware repair shop, Biden defenders, in and out of the media,

quickly labeled it Russian disinformation. That infuriated Bobulinski further, feeling it was a smear on him and his family's name.

"It's defamation of my character because they were accusing me of treason," he said, specifically citing Rep. Adam Schiff, the California Dem and dead-ender who remains addicted to the idea that President Trump colluded with Russia in 2016, even though special counsel Robert Mueller found no evidence.

The refusal of most media and Big Tech to take Bobulinski's allegations seriously is the final ingredient in his fury.

"I'm disgusted that I have not gotten a call, e-mail, letter, mes-

sage, from anyone from Facebook, Google or Twitter asking me to confirm if the e-mails are authentic," he said. "It should be criminal how they are blocking that critical information from getting to the American people."

He shares the cold shoulder with The Post, which has been blocked by Twitter, a blatant effort to protect Biden in the waning days of the presidential campaign.

Although his meeting with Joe Biden occurred four months after Joe left the White House at the start of the Trump administration, Bobulinski is emphatic that the start of the Chinese deal, and Joe Biden's involvement, came much earlier. He tells me he was

recruited in 2015 by the man who wrote the "big guy" e-mail, James Gilliar, whom he describes as a former British intelligence officer.

In fact, Bobulinski says Hunter and James Biden had been working to introduce executives of a Chinese energy conglomerate to foreign government leaders around the world for two years.

"When I got involved, they were already saying the Chinese owed them \$20 million for two years of work," Bobulinski says. He recounts a dinner in a Manhattan restaurant where Hunter started shouting at one of the Chinese executives about the money, saying, "You owe my family tens of millions of dollars, why

haven't you paid?"

The introductions took place in Oman, Poland, Romania, Monaco and others, on top of the lucrative gigs Hunter Biden got in Ukraine and Kazakhstan. None of those connections could have been made without the assumption that they were buying the Biden name, which is why the Chinese were willing to pay Hunter and Jim such princely sums.

"There are statements that are fact, fact, on a potential president of the United States and they pull it down within hours," Bobulinski says of the censors.

"How does that happen in our country?"

That, too, is a very good question.

Scooters 69X deadlier than Citi Bikes

By DAVID MEYER
Transit Reporter

One bulky blue bike is far more dangerous than the other.

There have been 69 times as many deaths per million trips on Revel e-scooters than on Citi Bikes, city officials said Tuesday. Revel was launched in 2018; Citi Bike began in 2013.

Three moped riders and one pedestrian were killed in Revel-related crashes over the span of four months this year — bringing the company's NYC fatality rate to 1.36 deaths per million trips, Transportation Commissioner Polly Trottenberg told City Council members during a hearing on the controversial company's safety record.

By comparison, Citi Bike has seen just two users die in crashes since it launched on New York City streets, a rate of .02 deaths per million trips, Trottenberg said.

"Revel's heavier, faster and less familiar vehicles will probably always present a higher risk profile," she told council members.

"There's no escaping the fact that moped share is in a different risk category than bike share."

Revel was pulled from city streets in July after the deaths of three users in the span of just 10 days but returned a month later.

As part of its return, the scooter-share company added new safety protocols: mandatory "how-to" videos, an extended safety text and a requirement that riders snap a "helmet selfie" before each ride.

On Tuesday, both Trottenberg and Revel boss Frank Reig claimed the added red tape had worked, despite the Sept. 29. pedestrian fatality — an 82-year-old woman hit by a rider near Columbus Circle.

"The Revel crash rate in September was 50 percent lower than in June, when the rate peaked at about three crashes per 10,000 trips," Trottenberg said.

"The crash rate for first-time users has also declined, and helmet use has significantly increased among Revel riders."

DOT is in the process of creating regulations for Revel and other moped share companies.

"Companies like Revel abso-



Deaths per million trips	
Revel	1.36
Citi Bike	0.02

TRAGIC: Fatal crashes of Revel scooters — such as this one in July in Brooklyn — led to greater precautions from the scooter-share company. Officials warned that riding a Revel is far more dangerous than a Citi Bike.

lutely need to do our part," Reig said.

"We look forward to DOT promulgating rules to regulate mopeds . . . In the interim, we will continue to be a good and transparent partner at all times in furtherance of the administration."

Still, Revel's supporters, like

Councilman Antonio Reynoso (D-Brooklyn), worry the city may wind up "over-regulating" the company in reaction to safety concerns.

Reynoso insisted the company has done "everything right" and not broken any city laws in its operations.

"We've seen companies like Uber come into the city with no regulation and run madhouse. And that is not what I see happening with Revel," he told Trottenberg.

"We have to be very careful about what we're telling companies that are playing by the rules."

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Bombs for Whitmer

Authorities recently discovered bomb-making materials that could lead to federal terrorism charges against six men charged in a plot to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Prosecutors cited the seizure in court papers that asked for more time to seek indictments against the defendants, the Detroit Free Press reported.

"Firearms and explosive-device components were recently recovered and must be analyzed to determine whether charges under the National Firearms Act, explosives or anti-terrorism statutes are warranted," Assistant US Attorney Nils Kessler wrote.

The FBI also has "hundreds of hours of audio recordings from confidential human sources and undercover agents," Kessler said.

In addition to the six men facing federal charges, eight others were arrested on state charges in what Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel called a plan to "instigate a civil war." *Bruce Golding*

Ohio sweep to save kids

A monthlong sweep in Ohio recently turned up 45 missing children and led to 179 arrests, authorities said on Monday.

Twenty other kids were located as authorities checked on their well-being.

Operation Autumn Hope was conducted by US Marshals in Ohio and Virginia in conjunction with the Ohio Attorney General's Office and the Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and state and local agencies in Ohio. *Yaron Steinbuch*

China's on US buying spree

China upped purchases of American goods in September, though it remains far from the full-year target set out under its Phase One trade deal with the US, Bloomberg News reported on Tuesday.

The value of US goods bought by China, led by oil, soybean and car imports, hit a monthly high of \$9.9 billion

in September, Bloomberg said. But that still left China's purchases, slowed by the coronavirus pandemic, at 38.5 percent of a total target of more than \$170 billion set for the year, Bloomberg said based on Customs data.

Bloomberg's report comes amid new tensions with China over a State Depart-

ment deal to sell \$1.8 billion worth of military equipment to Taiwan.

In response, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said Monday that China will slap sanctions on US contractors: Boeing Co.'s defense unit, Lockheed Martin Corp. and Raytheon Technologies Corp. *Mark Moore*

Zeta threatens New Orleans

After slamming into Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula as a hurricane, Tropical Storm Zeta is expected to regain strength over the Gulf of Mexico and could hit New Orleans late Wednesday.

Zeta's top winds reached 70 mph Tuesday and it was centered about 540 miles south of the mouth of the

Mississippi River.

If it makes landfall in Louisiana, it would be the fifth named storm to hit the state this year — joining Cristobal, Laura, Marco and Delta. On Monday, Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards issued an emergency declaration.

"We must roll up our sleeves, like we always do,

and prepare for a potential impact to Louisiana," he said, CNN reported.

Zeta broke the prior record for earliest 27th Atlantic named storm, formed Nov. 29, 2005. It's also the 11th hurricane of the season. An average season sees six hurricanes and 12 named storms.

Yaron Steinbuch, Wires



TORMENT: India Oxenberg (below on Tuesday) wept in court as she detailed Keith Raniere's years of abuse.

120 YEARS FOR NXIVM SLAVE GURU

Brands victims as liars in defiant B'klyn sentencing

By REBECCA ROSENBERG,
LORENA MONGELLI
and KATE SHEEHY

Nxivm leader Keith Raniere was slammed with 120 years behind bars Tuesday for running a twisted sex-slave cult where women were branded like cattle and forced to sleep with him.

The 60-year-old self-help sicko was handed the sentence in Brooklyn federal court after more than a dozen of his accusers spoke — including one who said she was just 15 when the “monster” took her virginity.

Raniere remained defiant until the end, insisting to the judge his victims were liars.

“They’re lying for a reason, and that reason stems from me,” Raniere, dressed in prison-issued navy-blue scrubs and an orange shirt, told the court before his sentence was handed down.

“I do feel deep remorse, but I do not feel remorse for the crimes I didn’t commit.”

But Judge Nicholas Garaufis scoffed that the self-styled guru’s crimes were “cruel, perverse and extremely serious” as he ensured Raniere would remain in prison for life, and ordered him to pay a \$1.75 million fine.

“To him, the brave victims . . . are liars,” Garaufis said in bringing down the gavel on the sex-trafficker.

“Mr. Raniere remains unmoved . . . [He] has therefore

failed to demonstrate remorse.”

The judge was clearly moved during the hearing by statements from 15 people, mostly women, who recounted the horrific abuse they suffered at the cult leader’s hands.

Raniere had faced as few as 15 years on seven felony convictions including sex-trafficking, racketeering, child pornography and forced labor for the year-long saga of sexual, physical and mental abuse involving scores of young women.

The shaggy-haired guru ran the Albany-based Nxivm, draining members of dough amid promises of promoting individual growth — all while grooming the women for his sexual pleasure, feds have said.

His reach proved far and wide — from disadvantaged towns in Mexico to Hollywood, luring actresses such as Allison Mack and Nicki Clyne, as well as Seagram’s booze heiress Clare Bronfman and India Oxenberg, the daughter of “Dynasty” star Catherine Oxenberg, into Nxivm’s ranks.

He then formed a secret master-slave “sorority” within Nxivm to carry out his illicit deeds, prosecutors said.

It was called DOS, or “Dominant Over Submissive.”

Those who spoke against Raniere at the hearing included his first sex

slave and a former DOS “master,” who finally broke her silence to tell the judge that the cult leader took her virginity at age 15.

“It is difficult for me to utter his name so I will only refer to him as ‘he,’” said the woman, identified only as Camila, as she recounted how she met Raniere in her native Mexico at age 13.

She and her two older sisters were all allegedly impregnated by Raniere, then forced to get abortions.

Camila was branded on her body with Raniere’s initials, as were many other DOS members, who described being burned with a cauterizing pen with the

mark above their genitals.

India Oxenberg, 29, wept as she told the judge that Raniere starved her to make her look like a 12-year-old and raped her.

She said that before he forced her to have sex with him, he would sometimes rub his hand over her branding.

It took a jury less than five hours to convict Raniere of all the counts against him at trial in June 2019 — but Garaufis said the verdict would have come even quicker had Camila taken the witness stand.

“Had she testified, it would have taken a jury 10 minutes to convict him,” the jurist said.

“She was groomed from the age of 13 to 15, then was seduced by Mr. Raniere for his sexual pleasure. That’s a fact.”

When Raniere’s lawyer, Marc Agnifilo, tried to argue that his client’s intent was not to hurt anyone, the judge shot him down.

“But what do you think intent is when you’re a 13-year-old girl and a 43-year-old man?” the jurist said, referring to Camila and Raniere when they met.

“I’m not going to tolerate what his intent was when he seduced a 15-year-old girl,” Garaufis said of Raniere. “It’s an insult.”

“The branding of Camila was cruel to the point of inhumane. The harm he inflicted on her was incalculable.”

Agnifilo tried again to defend his client, saying, “He was in love with some of these women . . . He doesn’t know how to let go.”

But the judge just shot him down again — as Raniere’s victims made faces at each other in disbelief at the lawyer’s assertion.

Still, Raniere continues to have supporters.

Clyne, who is married to Mack and appeared on TV’s “Battlestar Galactica,” was among about 20 of Raniere’s devotees who showed up in court on Tuesday.

The group also included Marc Elliot, who claimed he overcame Tourette syndrome thanks to Nxivm.

“I think Keith is a good man who has helped the lives of thousands and thousands of people, and currently there is only one narrative in the media because another side has been completely silenced until only a couple of days ago,” Elliot said.

Bronfman and Mack have already pleaded guilty for their involvement in the group, with the heiress landing nearly seven years behind bars earlier this month.

Mack is still awaiting sentencing.

Raniere made a plea to the judge Tuesday to go easy on Mack.

“Allison should spend no time in prison,” Raniere said.

rosenberg@nypost.com



AMERICA BURNING



VANDALIZED: Amid the mayhem, protesters smashed the windows of this unoccupied police van and graffitied it.

Protesters run amok in B'klyn

Hundreds of protesters descended upon Downtown Brooklyn Tuesday night — leaving a trail of destruction and targeting NYPD cops over the Philadelphia police shooting death of an armed black man.

The group assembled in Fort Greene Park before snaking its way through the streets, vandalizing police vehicles, torching an American flag and setting at least one rubbish fire, according to footage posted on social media by video journalist Issa Khari.

“Burn the precinct to the ground, every city, every town!” the protesters, most of them clad all in black, chanted as they marched at Boerum Place and Livingston Street.

At Willoughby and Jay streets, several protesters chucked rocks and bottles at police officers, sources said.

Others were spotted tagging with graffiti random buildings in their path.

One man spray-painted “RIP Walter,” on a building facade, a reference to Walter Wallace Jr., whose death they were protesting.

Wallace, 27, was armed with a knife that he refused to drop before he was shot dead by Philadelphia police on Monday.

At about 10 p.m. Tuesday, as protesters made it into Brooklyn Heights, they were met by police in riot gear on Atlantic Avenue near Smith Street.

Cops ordered the group to leave, with announcements saying those who did would not be charged. But some of the protesters tried to run past the officers, leading to a confrontation and multiple arrests.

At the same intersection, a car drove through a line of police officers. It's unclear if the occupants were affiliated with the protest.

Larry Celona, Joe Marino, Kenneth Garger

30 officers hurt, 90 arrests



DISTURBED: Walter Wallace Jr. (above and inset) wields a knife Monday in Philadelphia, leading to an emergency call. Cops responded (below) and told Wallace to drop his knife; instead he approached and was fatally shot.



By LEE BROWN and JORGE FITZ-GIBBON

Philadelphia erupted in violence Monday following the police shooting death of a knife-wielding black man, sparking a night of rioting that left 30 cops injured.

By Tuesday, the Trump administration had offered to send in federal troops and the state's governor had activated the National Guard in anticipation of another raucous night.

At least 90 people were arrested during protests over the death of Walter Wallace Jr., a 27-year-old man who was killed by

cops after refusing to drop a knife at around 4 p.m. Monday, according to police.

Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw said three protesters were issued citations for failure to disperse, 11 were charged with assaulting police officers and 76 were charged with burglary, including three suspects who were armed. The mob also turned on journalists, charging at three TV cameramen and trashing an ABC News van.

Left-wing groups appeared to help coordinate chaos by monitoring publicly ac-

cessible police scanners and announcing officers' movements on social media.

“We’re monitoring the situation closely,” White House Communications Director Alyssa Farah said on “Fox & Friends” Tuesday. “If necessary we’ll be standing by and prepared to deploy federal resources.”

Asked if the administration would wait for a request for help from Philly Mayor Jim Kenney, Farah said “that’s a question for DOJ and the Department of Homeland Security.”

Meanwhile Tuesday, it was revealed that

PHILLY RIOTERS GO TO WAR WITH POLICE

after black man killed by cops

Unrest looms, Biden or Trump

Violence and protests will continue to sweep across the United States regardless of who wins the presidency, according to researchers citing a “political stress index.”

The academics claim their measure of political instability shows that the country would still be a powder keg waiting to erupt even if Joe Biden wins by a landslide, BuzzFeed News reported.

“The tendency is to blame [President] Trump, but I don’t really agree with that,” Peter Turchin, an evolutionary anthropologist at the University of Connecticut, told the news outlet. “Trump is really not the deep structural cause.”

Turchin and George Mason University sociologist Jack Goldstone argue that the most dangerous element in play is the corrosive effect of inequality on society. They claim their model explains how mounting inequality leads to political instability.

Turchin developed the political stress index, or PSI, which includes measures of wage stagnation, national debt, competition among elites and distrust in government. He built on Goldstone’s research that shows how revolutions tend to follow periods of population growth and urbanization.

Turchin also raised a red flag a decade ago, when he predicted that instability would peak in the years around 2020.

“In the United States, we have stagnating or declining real wages, a growing gap between rich and poor, overproduction of young graduates with advanced degrees, and exploding public debt,” he wrote in a letter to the journal *Nature*. “Historically, such developments have served as leading indicators of looming political instability.”

Goldstone and Turchin wrote in a recent article that “almost any election scenario this fall is likely to lead to popular protests on a scale we have not seen this century.” Yaron Steinbuch



FIERY RAGE: Police stand back as a patrol car burns Monday in Philadelphia following violence related to the officer-involved fatal shooting of Walter Wallace Jr. Rioters looted stores (inset) and attacked police, injuring 30.

AP, Reuters

officers had been at Wallace’s home twice earlier on Monday on domestic-disturbance calls before they returned for the third time, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported Tuesday.

The family’s final call of the day wasn’t to cops, but for an ambulance to respond to a spiraling mental-health issue, the Wallaces’ attorney, Shaka Johnson, told the outlet.

When two police officers nonetheless responded to the home, Wallace’s pregnant wife told the officers that her husband suffered from bipolar disorder and was in crisis, Johnson said. The officers shot Wallace when he refused to drop a knife he was holding, with

parts of the fatal encounter caught on video.

The family on Tuesday questioned why police shot him, with his father telling reporters his son was on medication.

“They were advised that he had mental-health issues,” the dead man’s cousin, Anthony Fitzhugh, told the Inquirer.

“I understand he had a knife, and their job is to protect and serve,” Fitzhugh continued. “By all means, do so, but do not let lethal force be the means by which you de-escalate the situation. You could have still kept your gun drawn while another officer Tased him.”

“It didn’t have to happen this way,” he

added. “At what point do you draw a line and say, ‘OK, I’m going over a limit. This no longer falls under my job description, this is murder?’ ”

Just hours after the shooting, protesters were torching police cars, looting stores and charging at lines of cops in riot gear.

“This completely caught us off guard in the sense that, one, no one can predict that there’s an officer-involved shooting,” Outlaw told the Inquirer. “And, two, once we arrived there we saw that there would be civil unrest.”

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Body-dump video



STRANGLER: The NYPD on Tuesday released images of the body of pregnant Vanessa Pierre (left) being dumped in Queens, allegedly by boyfriend Goey Charles, who has been charged with murder.



By KEVIN SHEEHAN,
AMANDA WOODS
and JORGE FITZ-GIBBON



Grim Qns. death of tragic preg gal pal

Disturbing surveillance images released Tuesday show a man dragging his pregnant girlfriend's lifeless body from a car and dumping her on the side of a Queens highway.

The clip, tweeted by NYPD Chief of Detectives Rodney Harrison, allegedly depicts 29-year-old Goey Charles yanking Vanessa Pierre, also 29, out of a light-colored car and leaving her by the Horace Harding Expressway in Bayside shortly before 3 a.m. last Friday.

Queens prosecutors said Pierre was still moving in the back seat of the 2019 white Dodge Challenger — but is seen motionless after Charles opens the rear door and reaches inside.

He's shown getting back in the

driver's seat of the vehicle, which was registered in Pierre's name, before the video cuts off.

Pierre, a nurse practitioner, was six months' pregnant with Charles' child, a girl, whom she would have named Libby Egypt, her sister, Melissa Pierre, 27, told the Post Tuesday.

"She was very excited about the baby," Melissa said. "She loved him and she wanted a family but I told her this man is not it.

"I kept telling her ... something was just off about him. He was a path-

ological liar. They moved really fast, been together about a year, less than that. From what it looked like, it looked like he wasn't really working."

A passerby found Pierre's body at about 6 a.m. and called police, the Queens District Attorney's Office said.

Charles was picked out of a photo array and arrested Monday.

"This is a heartbreaking case," DA Melinda Katz said in a statement. "A pregnant woman was allegedly killed by this defendant — the father

of her unborn child. Her family is devastated."

The city Medical Examiner's Office confirmed Tuesday morning that Pierre had been strangled.

She died of asphyxia due to compression of the neck, and the death has been ruled a homicide, a spokeswoman said.

Pierre had a sweatshirt wrapped around her neck and was dressed in an orange shirt and red pajamas, with a sock on one foot, police sources said at the time.

Authorities arrested Charles, of Uniondale, LI, at 6 p.m. Monday, cops said. He was charged with second-degree murder. Pierre lived in neighboring Hempstead, cops said.

Vanessa never got "into altercations with anybody" or even raised her voice, her sister said.

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Shot deli staffer has died

The 26-year-old Queens deli employee shot by a homeless man who was later arrested by an off-duty cop has died, authorities said Tuesday.

Mohmediyan Tarwala succumbed following the Monday-evening shooting, authorities said.

Steven Cohen, 63, went into the store on Cross Bay Boulevard in Jamaica at about 6 p.m. and started "acting disorderly," police said.

Two employees, Tarwala and a 32-year-old man, escorted him out of the store, according to authorities.

But Cohen returned and allegedly shot Tarwala, who was pronounced dead at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center early Tuesday.

Cohen also fired at the other employee but missed, according to police.

Off-duty cop Jason Maharaj of the 77th Precinct in Brooklyn — who happened to be inside the store — jumped into action.

Dramatic surveillance video posted on Twitter by Police Commissioner Dermot Shea shows Cohen holding the gun in his right hand and seemingly firing off two shots — before Maharaj tackles him and knocks him through the open door and onto the sidewalk.

"Nothing short of heroic," Shea wrote on the post. "The moment after a man shot & killed a deli worker, off-duty NYPD Officer Maharaj, without regard for his own safety, tackled the shooter, disarmed him & held him for responding cops."

Cohen was charged with murder, attempted murder.

Amanda Woods, Tina Moore

Two dead as five are hit in latest gunplay

Five people were shot — two fatally — across the city Monday and Tuesday, according to police.

In the most recent incident, which happened around 2:10 a.m. Tuesday at 108th Street and Roosevelt Avenue in Corona, Queens, a man in his 30s

was slashed on the head and shot in the chest, cops said.

He was taken to Elmhurst Hospital Center in stable condition.

Authorities said they did not have a description of the suspect or know the cause of the attack.

The other four shootings occurred Monday, including two that led to deaths.

One came in broad daylight at Morris and Greenwich streets in the Financial District in Manhattan.

A 46-year-old man fatally shot his 40-year-old

wife before turning the weapon on himself, cops said.

The other involved the fatal shooting of a deli clerk in Jamaica, Queens, at around 6 p.m., police said. (See full story, above right.)

On Monday's date in

2019, which was a Saturday, four shootings were reported with six victims, cops said.

The tragedies came as shootings citywide are up 95 percent for the year. So far in 2020, there have been 1,277 reported so far this year compared to 653

for the same period last year, according to police data.

The number of victims has more than doubled at 1,569 for the year.

Gun arrests are up 13 percent at 3,200 for 2020, data show.

Amanda Woods



PRINCE AZIM
Billionaire produced films.

Sultan's scion dies, 38

Prince Azim, the son of the mega-rich sultan of Brunei who also forged a minor career as a Hollywood producer, has died at the age of 38, according to reports.

Azim, who was fourth in line to the throne, died Saturday in Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital city of the tiny nation on the island of Borneo, *Variety* reported.

The government did not mention a cause of death, though local media report he had been ill for some time. Some unconfirmed reports pointed to liver cancer.

On announcing Azim's death, officials declared a seven-day period of national mourning.

Through his London-based production company Daryl Prince Productions, the prince produced George C. Wolfe's drama "You're Not You" in 2014, starring Hilary Swank, Emmy Rossum and Josh Duhamel.

His personal wealth has been estimated at \$5 billion.

Yaron Steinbuch

Capsize kills 4 migrants

At least four migrants, including two young children, died Tuesday when their boat capsized while trying to cross the English Channel to Britain, French authorities said.

Fifteen migrants have been saved so far and rescue and search operations were still underway, according to authorities.

French authorities mobilized five vessels and a Belgian helicopter nearby to help with the rescue after the migrant boat was reported in distress. *AP*

Payback vow over Justice Barrett

JURIST PRUDENCE?
Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas administers the oath of office Monday to new Justice Amy Coney Barrett.



GOP COURTS WOE: DEMS

By EMILY JACOBS

Prominent Democrats are vowing that Republicans will rue the day they confirmed Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett.

Democratic lawmakers both in and out of the Senate, which voted to confirm President Trump's nominee to the nation's highest bench on Monday, threatened myriad proposals following the justice's swearing-in.

Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del.), a close Joe Biden ally who sits on the Judiciary Committee, warned during an appearance on MSNBC's "The Rachel Maddow Show" Monday evening that "we've got to look at our federal courts as a whole."

Asked how Democrats would be able to get retribution for Republicans achieving a 6-3 conservative court, the Delaware senator said, "[W]e've got to have a wide-open conversation about how do we rebalance our courts ... Because we've seen hundreds of conservative judges put on circuit courts and district courts all over this country in the last four years, in many cases, too young, too unqualified and too far right to be allowed to sit peaceably without our reexamining the process, the results and the consequences."

Coons' remarks were the first from a Senate Democrat on making changes to lower courts as well as the Supreme Court.

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse

(D-RI), another Senate Judiciary Committee member, went as far as introducing a resolution on the Senate floor expressing that "unlimited anonymous spending to influence our judiciary undermines the integrity of our judicial system and damages Americans' confidence that all people receive equal justice under law."

Speaking to *The Hill* Monday, Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) addressed the recent "speculation" about the potential for Democrats to expand the Supreme Court and push court changes should they win back the White House and Senate in November.

"Will Democrats go to new, extraordinary lengths to maximize their power given the extraordi-

nary lengths Republicans have gone to maximize their power? This is not a conversation that is ripe enough yet, but what do Republicans expect?" the Connecticut Democrat asked.

"Do we just unilaterally stand down and not choose to use the same tools that Republicans did in the majority?" he continued, adding: "I think there are now new rules in the Senate, and I think Republicans have set them."

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) warned Monday that Republicans would come to regret their decision to move forward on Barrett's nomination.

"My colleagues may regret this for a lot longer than they think," he said.

Supreme oaths in DC Networks snub historic AGB

Chief Justice John Roberts administered the judicial oath to Justice Amy Coney Barrett in a private ceremony Tuesday morning at the Supreme Court.

"Upon administration of that oath, she will be able to begin to participate in the work of the court," the Su-

preme Court announced.

Justice Clarence Thomas administered the constitutional oath to Barrett, who was confirmed by a 52-48 Senate vote Monday, a month after President Trump announced her selection to replace the late Ruth Bader Ginsburg. *Mark Moore*

CNN and MSNBC did not air Monday night's Senate confirmation vote for Amy Coney Barrett, a historic moment marking only the fifth woman to sit on the Supreme Court.

The two cable channels did not cover the 52-48 vote

in the Senate, but CNN aired the swearing-in ceremony with Justice Clarence Thomas later at the White House, Fox News reported.

CNN's coverage of the swearing-in likened the White House ceremony to a "superspreader" event like

President Trump's announcement at an event in the Rose Garden last month that he had selected Barrett as his nominee.

Fox News covered the confirmation vote in the Senate and the swearing-in ceremony later. *Mark Moore*

Rivals launch battleground ballots blitz

Target key states in final week

By EBONY BOWDEN, STEVEN NELSON and AARON FEIS

President Trump, Joe Biden and their high-profile allies again fanned out in battleground states across the country Tuesday as Biden's national polling lead narrowed a week ahead of the election.

Trump held three rallies, in Michigan, Wisconsin and Nebraska, states he swept in 2016 but where he is now in danger.

"It's a choice between our plan to kill the [coronavirus] or Biden's plan to kill the American Dream," Trump told a sprawling crowd in Lansing, Mich., where he spoke outside for more than an hour in 37-degree rain without a hat or umbrella.

First Lady Melania Trump, meanwhile, made her first campaign-trail appearance of the election cycle, one that was short but got right to the point, with a 15-minute speech in Pennsylvania, a potentially make-or-break state where her husband held three rallies on Monday.

"Joe Biden's policies and socialist agenda will only serve to destroy America and all that has been built in the past four years," said Melania, who was born in Slovenia when it was part of socialist Yugoslavia.

Vice President Mike Pence also did his part for four more years with an

event in North Carolina.

Democratic challenger Biden, after days of staying close to his Delaware home, headed to Georgia, where RealClearPolitics' average of polls shows Trump clinging to a razor-thin lead.

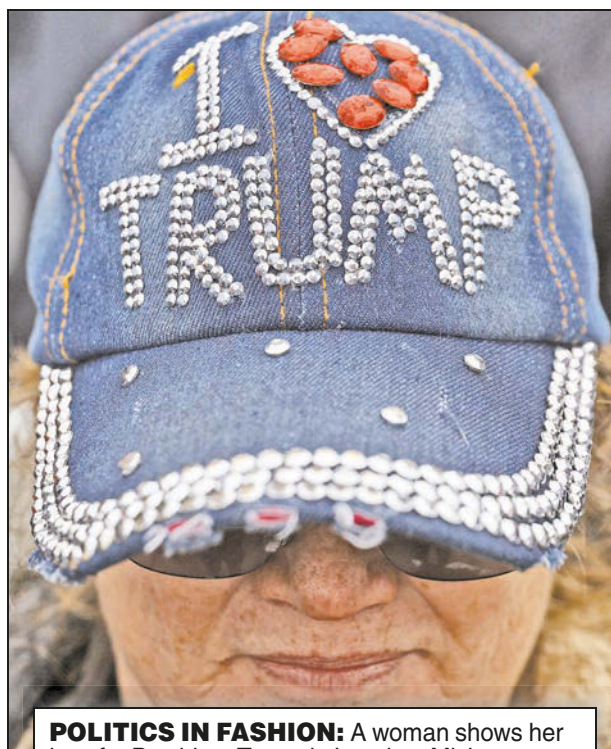
"This place, Warm Springs, is a reminder that though broken, each of us can be healed," Biden said in the town of some 425 people that a polio-stricken Franklin Delano Roosevelt frequented for its "therapeutic waters." "That as a people and a country, we can overcome a devastating virus. That we can heal a suffering world. That, yes, we can restore our soul and save our country."

Former President Barack Obama, under whom Biden served two terms as vice president, held a socially distanced car rally in Orlando, Fla., while California Sen. Kamala Harris, Biden's running mate, went on the stump in Nevada.

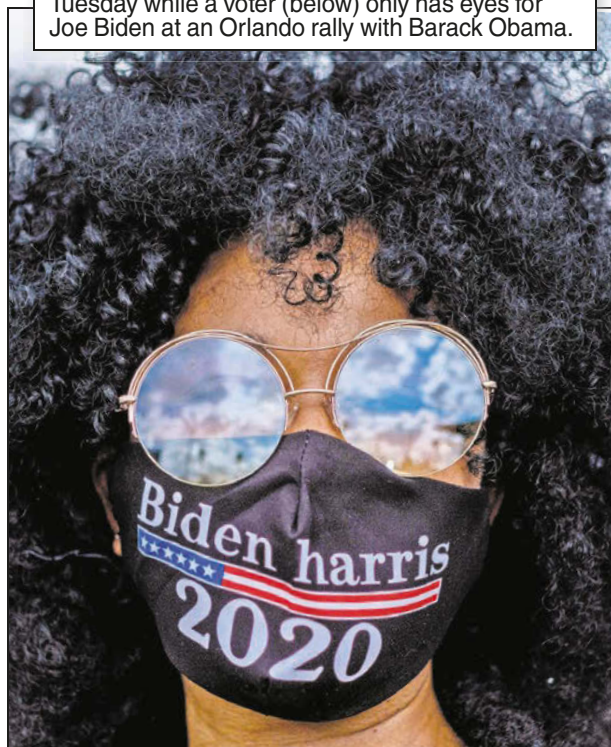
The breakneck schedule for both campaigns came as Biden maintained a healthy lead in the national polls, albeit a bit slimmer than it had been 24 hours earlier.

Biden held an overall 74-point edge as of Tuesday afternoon, according to RealClearPolitics' average of national polls, down from the 7.8-point advantage he enjoyed on Monday.

Additional reporting by Mark Moore



POLITICS IN FASHION: A woman shows her love for President Trump in Lansing, Mich., Tuesday while a voter (below) only has eyes for Joe Biden at an Orlando rally with Barack Obama.



Getty Images

AFP via Getty Images

Already vote? Change it: prez

President Trump on Tuesday urged Americans who have already cast their ballot to change their vote for him after the term began trending on Google.

"Strongly Trending (Google) since immediately after the second debate is CAN I CHANGE MY VOTE? This refers changing it to me. The answer in most states is YES. Go do it," Trump tweeted.

The term "change my vote" registered a strong uptick on Google Trends on Oct. 24 after The Post published its exposé about former Vice President Joe Biden's alleged involvement in Hunter Biden's business dealings in Ukraine and China. It also climbed during the final presidential debate last Thursday.

The Google searches for "change my vote" had the most interest in Arizona, Florida, Idaho, Minnesota and Pennsylvania.

People who searched "change my vote" also searched for "Hunter Biden" and Hunter Biden-related queries, according to Google.

An estimated 65 million people have already cast their ballots ahead of the Nov. 3 election.

Some states allow voters who have changed their minds to submit a new ballot, Matthew Weil, director of the Election Project at the Bipartisan Policy Center, told Newsy. That includes New York, at least for those who mailed in an absentee ballot.

"Even if you request or cast and return an absentee ballot, you may still go to the polls and vote in person," the state Board of Elections says.

In Arizona, Florida, Idaho and Minnesota, residents who voted by mail can vote with a provisional ballot on Election Day.

In Pennsylvania, voters can bring their mail-in or absentee ballot with them to the poll to be voided or sign a declaration to be able to vote on Nov. 3.

Mark Moore

Omar: Joe would go hard left

Rep. Ilhan Omar expects that if Joe Biden is elected, he would become far more progressive than the moderate he has presented himself to be.

In an interview with "Axios on HBO" that aired Monday, Omar (D-Minn.) made the comments after being asked what kind of negotiating power progressives would have with a Biden administration.

"A president is only as successful as his collaboration is with Con-

gress. And we will have a cohort of progressives that are very clear about their objectives for wanting the implementation of Medicare-for-all and a Green New Deal and raising the minimum wage and not allowing for fracking," the "Squad" member said.

Asked if there were any Cabinet positions for which she believed Biden must appoint a progressive, she said, "All of the Cabinet positions should be filled by progressive Democrats." *Emily Jacobs*

Trump for 'Trump 2020' cop

President Trump on Tuesday called on NYPD brass to let the cop who was suspended for blaring "Trump 2020" from his patrol car's loudspeaker return to work.

"Get that great Officer back to Work!" Trump said in one of a series of posts retweeting support from the Sergeants Benevolent Association for the unidentified cop who was suspended without pay over his on-duty endorsement of Trump in Brooklyn on Saturday.

"Let New York's Finest finally do

their job!" he also tweeted, along with stats on rising city crime.

"FIFTY-THREE. That's how many NYers were shot this week. A 279% INCREASE. . . How has defunding worked? . . . We need cops & sane public safety policies," Trump tweeted, citing The Post's story on seven gun-violence victims over the weekend.

Trump later tweeted directly to New York voters. "Vote for Trump. What (the Hell!) do you have to lose?" *Mark Moore*

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Anchor in NBC megadeal

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Different vows

FOX News contributor and ex-priest **Jonathan Morris** got hitched at St. Patrick's this month. Morris — who quit the priesthood in 2019, saying he struggled with the — “commitments ... especially not being able to marry and raise a family” — married ABC News investigative producer **Kaitlyn Folmer** in front of guests, who included **Megyn Kelly**, **Bill Hemmer**, **Pete Hegseth** and **Dana Perino**. The couple met after he'd already left the priesthood. Morris, who played a priest in **Martin Scorsese's** “The Irishman,” is a founding partner at executive coaching firm Morris and Larson Advisors.



He's 'Alive!' again

PETER Frampton (above), 70, admits he was a stereotypical spoiled rock diva — but only for about three weeks! “I put it down to my upbringing,” he told The Post's **Nicki Gostin**. “I've never thought I was better than anybody else.” When the '70s icon hit the big time, he said he “let that go to my head for the shortest time, [then] I realized one day and looked in the mirror and said, ‘This isn't you. This is what they want you to be.’” He's just released a memoir, “Do You Feel Like I Do?”

SAVANNAH Guthrie is on the brink of signing a new megadeal with NBC, after the network was impressed with her moderating of a town hall with President **Trump**, Page Six can reveal.

The “Today” anchor — who took the reins of the NBC show after **Matt Lauer's** unceremonious exit over sexual harassment allegations nearly three years ago — is getting a huge salary bump, we're told.

She signed a contract extension in December 2016, shortly after the last presidential election, and was rumored to be getting \$8 million a year — nowhere near Lauer's \$20 million-a-year deal. Asked about numbers, a TV source told us: “Savannah's new deal will be significantly more

than \$8 million a year, taking into consideration inflation, Lauer's old deal and her popularity.”

Guthrie, who will helm NBC News' election coverage next week alongside **Lester Holt** and **Chuck Todd**, impressed bosses with her steady hand during the Trump town hall two weeks ago by going toe-to-toe with the president. She also recently bagged the first live interview with **Bob Woodward** about his blockbuster Trump book “Rage.”

Earlier in the pandemic, she also successfully co-hosted “Today” while holed up in the basement of her upstate New York home that was turned into a makeshift studio — after she developed a mild sore throat and stuffy nose,

needing to self-quarantine.

Another source said: “Savannah is in a new realm now at the network.”

During the town hall, Guthrie pressed the president on issues from COVID-19 to QAnon. She also asked Trump about his retweet of a conspiracy theory that the death of Osama bin Laden was faked. “Why would you send a lie like that to your followers?” Guthrie asked Trump. “I know nothing about it,” Trump said. “You retweeted it,” Guthrie pointed out. “I don't get that ... You're the president — you're not like someone's crazy uncle who can just retweet whatever.”

Reps for NBC did not comment.



Instagram @gwenstefani

Has a ring to it

GWEN Stefani and **Blake Shelton** (left) are getting married. The No Doubt rocker announced her engagement to the country music star on Instagram Tuesday, posting a picture showing off her new ring. Shelton, 44, and the pop star, 51, have been dating since 2015, after meeting as judges on NBC's singing competition show “The Voice.” Stefani split from husband **Gavin Rossdale** in 2015. Shelton and country diva **Miranda Lambert** were married from 2011 to 2015. This will be her second marriage and his third.

Hart and soul

SUPERMODEL Jessica Hart got engaged over the weekend — at her baby shower, Page Six has exclusively learned. Sources told us that Hart's beau, race car driver **James Kirkham**, popped the question at the Malibu, Calif., shower after Hart's sister, model **Ashley Hart**, “was giving a blessing for the baby on the beach.” A source said, “Jess and the guests formed a circle, and everyone had their eyes closed. When Jess opened her eyes, James was down on one knee with a vintage ring.” Hart, 34, revealed that she was pregnant in September.

Magical thinking

SOME of Oscar winner **Nicole Kidman's** critically maligned missteps have aged well with fans. Kidman said, in a chat for WSJ Magazine and Tiffany's “The One” series, “Strangely enough, ‘Practical Magic’ — every time Halloween's going — people are like, ‘I love ‘Practical Magic!’” She said fans of the 1998 film even have viewing parties and mix up margaritas inspired by the film's characters. “And I'm always like, ‘Sandy, that's cool,’” Kidman said of informing her co-star in the film, **Sandra Bullock**, of its popularity. The movie was box office poison 22 years ago and has a frightening 22 percent “fresh” rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

Just a \$20 million token of love

CYBERCURRENCY mogul **Alex Mashinsky** gifted his wife, former Urban Outfitters exec **Krissy**, \$20 million for her 50th birthday. Or, at least, he gifted her 15 million tokens from Celsius, the crypto network that he founded — the tokens are currently worth \$20 million. He tweeted, “[Krissy] has been with me through it all and ALWAYS supported me even when I made silly mistakes. I love you.” The pair recently founded a company that uses blockchain — the technology that cryptocurrency runs on — to track the production of real-world goods to ensure they're American-made. Krissy recently told Page Six that often goods sold as “Made in the USA” are actually manufactured elsewhere. But she said that they expect their company, USA Strong, to allow “customers to be able to see — from the farmer through to the shipper to your door — who touched and made your products.” She said that, in part because of blockchain, the company is able to sell products that are verified as made in America.



'Magne event

AMID speculation that he won't renew his contract with his hit radio show, "The Breakfast Club," co-host **Charlamagne the God** has signed "a multi-year, multi-project" deal with audio giant Audible. Back in March, Page Six reported that the radio superstar had various "potential deals" on the table, should he decide not to re-sign with the show. On Tuesday, Audible announced that Charlamagne and **Kevin Hart** are working together on a series of shows for the company. "The slate of episodic long-form Audible Originals will feature fiction and nonfiction scripted series from both emerging and high wattage superstar talent that the two entertainment giants personally source, cultivate and develop," it said in a press release. "It will also include projects co-written and performed by Kevin and Charlamagne, as well as programs written and performed separately." Charlamagne also announced a chat show for Comedy Central in July. It's not yet clear what these deals mean for Charlamagne's contract with "The Breakfast Club" and its network, iHeartRadio. That contract is reportedly up at the end of the year.



SplashNews

Paris Hilton (left) and sister **Nicky Hilton Rothschild** go for a stroll in Manhattan. Paris tweeted on Tuesday that she has yet to decide on a Halloween costume; she'll take suggestions.

Room for Hilton

KATHY Hilton is officially joining "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills." We reported back in September that the socialite was being courted to appear on the Bravo show — but was only interested in signing up as a so-called "friend of the Housewives," rather than a full-time member of the cast. Now sources confirmed to PageSix.com's **Chelsea Hirsch** that, indeed, Hilton has signed on as "friend." Hilton will join her sister, **Kyle Richards**, on the show, as well as new castmember **Crystal Kung Minkoff**. **Teddi Mellencamp** and **Denise Richards** left the series in September. Season 11 is currently in production.

Actor boosted moose

JOHN Corbett cleaned up on the set of '90s CBS hit "Northern Exposure" — stealing a number of props, including a \$20,000 moose head. "It's in my living room hanging on the wall," Corbett said during a Vulture Fest panel, explaining that he swiped it while everyone was at lunch by hoisting it over a fence into a graveyard next door. Producers told everyone on set that the taxidermied prop was rented, and that "if it doesn't show up, we have to pay \$20,000." "I think I've escaped the statute of limitations," Corbett said of coming clean now. The actor, best-known for playing the character Aidan on "Sex and the City," showed up to the virtual event in clothes that he took from the show and also revealed he kept a treasure trove of paraphernalia, including a puppet, a motorcycle part, a piano part, a sword and a wax head from the program about a small town in Alaska.



PapCulture / BACKGRID

Jennifer Lawrence is masked up to meet friends for lunch in NYC.

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Lord of 'Gilded Age' dishes



Cindy Adams

FROM "Downton Abbey" to downtown Park Avenue, Lord **Julian Fellowes** keeps a stiff upper lip, sips a hot cuppa and knows to carry on.

Pish and tosh to the coronavirus. His HBO newie, another period thing, is on this side of the pond. It's us. The Colonies. NYC. How we were in the boom 1880s with materialism, expansionism, moneyism. "The Gilded Age" title comes from Mark Twain.

Word was CV had canceled it. No. His Lordship is here. Is the problem affecting him? "No. Locked in a trailer all day, you don't see or hear anything. And

it's nice to be holed up in a country house here rather than being locked up in London."

With **Christine Baranski** and **Cynthia Nixon**, when's it air? "Haven't a clue. I'm like the husband. Last to know." Don't look for it until March.

Lunar footnotes

"OVER the Moon" is a new film about a young girl who actually gets up to that circle in the sky. One small step for her, one giant leap for Asian actors. Comic **Margaret Cho**, whose voice is featured: "Multiculturalism is essential. We must live without racism."

Sandra Oh: "Thrilled to act in this group. Before it's always just been 'one of us' in every movie."

Like everything else, it's streaming on Netflix.

Comic chronicle

CHUGGING along soon's a movie about Richard Pryor, who once set himself on fire in a freebasing accident. Producers are

Kenya Baris and **Jen-Cynthia Nixon**: To star in "The Gilded Age."



nifer Lee, Richard's widow.

History lesson

THE phiz of **Trump's** hero, Andrew Jackson, hangs in the Oval Office. In 1824, Jackson won the plurality, but the electoral vote split four ways. There was only one Democrat-Republican party so the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams. In 1828, President Andrew beat John Quincy by a large margin.

Jackson was one of the first to openly campaign. Rallies, parades, flags. The classy Eastern establishment considered

this "obscene." He, however, creamed John Quincy, and for his toughness, the troops called him "Old Hickory." But he was the "People's President" — just like another tough "People's President."

Dead presidents

LINCOLN'S spirit is known to be restless. In Hans Holzer's "In Quest of Ghosts," we learn Eleanor Roosevelt's maid saw him pulling on his boots. The Netherlands' Queen Wilhelmina saw him standing somewhere, and she fainted.

Also in Holzer's book: Calvin Coolidge's wife "described his sad

look." Gerald Ford's daughter "encountered him in the Lincoln Bedroom." Ronald Reagan's daughter Maureen saw him "near the fireplace." And Harry Truman: "Three knocks on my bedroom door awakened me. Damn place is haunted."

Per **Dennis William Hauck's** "Haunted Places: The National Directory": Dead President Harrison "was seen rummaging in the White House attic." Staffers reported the ghost of Abigail Adams "hanging laundry." Presidential aides said Lyndon Johnson heard Jackson "cussing." When Woodrow Wilson was president, "Dolley Madison appeared in the Rose Garden." And John Quincy Adams "sat in his same old House floor seat."

So, Tuesday, lotsa luck to whoever's renting 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

PROPS for Halloween nights past: A 13-foot animated demon that writhes and jumps out at visitors. A hidden hand that reaches out when a trick-or-treater grabs a Tootsie Roll. A mannequin that spews fake green barf into a barrel. And, activated by a panel, a mirror with a skull that appears in the glass.

For sure, **only in New York, kids, only in New York.**

Call it a ghost town

BERGDORF'S, Saks, Neiman's each had back-of-house offices in nearby high-rises. Over. All empty ... WITH nobody doing anything, percolating are autobios like "The Butler Wore Guccis." **Tom Gardner** tells of buttling for families like the Gimbels, Henry Clay Frick, Roy Cohn's David Schine, Mar-a-Lago's Marjorie Merriweather Post ... THE Javits Center's car show's out of gas till August ... I'M also hearing they'll be no MSG for Westminster's 145th Best in Show. The usual 2,000-plus dogs are barking mad about next year's ring being in the Hudson Valley.

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Youth COVID-19 infection rate hits 3%

The city's daily youth COVID-19 infection rate hit nearly 3 percent Monday, state numbers show.

According to the data, 2,944 kids between the ages of 5 and 17 were tested for the coronavirus, and 87, or 2.95 percent, came up positive.

City Hall has previously stated that public schools would close if the overall citywide rate ever hit a seven day rolling average of 3 percent — a threshold it has not hit.

Monday's 87 cases — which include students from public, private, parochial and charter schools — stem from lab-vetted tests that are submitted to the Department of Health.

For the two-week period leading up to Monday, the overall city youth-infection rate was 1.4 percent.

The Department of Education has stressed that internal DOE school testing has produced a minimal positivity clip of around 0.15 percent.

Scrutiny of infection rates is likely to intensify in the coming days after the DOE announced that parents would have only one opportunity to switch from remote to blended learning next week.

Selim Algar

\$50 no-mask fine at PA sites

Travelers passing through New York City-area airports and other Port Authority transit facilities will now face a \$50 fine if they refuse to wear a mask, the agency said Tuesday.

The new penalty goes into effect on Monday and will apply to all Port Authority airport terminals, PATH trains and the Midtown and George Washington Bridge bus terminals.

An agency statement said the fines are part of the PA's "commitment to supporting state requirements on mask-wearing."

The move follows Gov. Cuomo's decision in September to institute \$50 mask-refusal fine on MTA subways and buses.

David Meyer

Don't travel to family: Blasio

DE GRINCH CANCELS HOLIDAYS

By JULIA MARSH
City Hall Bureau Chief

Santa may not be coming to Macy's this year, but Mayor de Blasio is already playing the Grinch.

Hizzoner told New Yorkers not to leave the city to visit friends and family for Thanksgiving — or any of the winter holidays — to prevent a second wave of the coronavirus.

"I hate to say it, but I have to urge all New Yorkers — do not travel out of state for the holidays," de Blasio said Tuesday during his daily press briefing from City Hall.

"Realize that by doing that, unfortunately you could be putting yourself and your family in danger and the risk of bringing the disease back here," Hizzoner said.

He also asked the Trump administration to impose a COVID-19 testing mandate for all domestic and international airline passengers.

"This is the moment for the federal government to create a mandate that anyone who gets on an airplane has had a negative coronavirus test within the previous 72 hours," de Blasio said.

The mayor has no authority to make the air-travel rule himself, and he is only asking New Yorkers to stay home for the holidays, not requiring them to do so.

Meanwhile, SUNY students should prepare to get a swab stuck up their noses before heading home for Turkey Day. The state's public university system on Tuesday announced a new policy requiring students to test negative for COVID-19 before they can

leave for Thanksgiving break.

Chancellor Jim Malatras said the policy "drastically reduces the chances of COVID-19 community spread."

All of SUNY's 64 colleges and universities must now come up with plans by Nov. 5 on how to test the entire student population within 10 days before the break.

Those hailing from any of 40 hot-spot states and US territories on a restricted list could face stricter implementation of the state's quarantine rules upon their return to New York.

De Blasio on Tuesday vowed tougher local enforcement of the rules, under which travelers returning to or visiting New York from those hot spots must self-isolate for 14 days. So far, just one person has been busted for breaking the order.

Some of city's daily coronavirus indicators are on the rise. Reported COVID-19 cases on a seven-day average are close to the threshold of 550 and nearly 2.5 percent of city residents tested positive for the virus on Sunday, the most recent data available. But hospitalizations, deaths and the week-long average for positive tests remain low.

"We have a real threat of a second wave here in New York City," de Blasio said. "We've been fighting it back, but we can't take it lightly."

Additional reporting by Lia Eustachewich



Post photo composite

Feds demand NY nursing-home death data

The Justice Department is requesting more data on COVID-19 deaths linked to New York nursing homes after receiving figures that indicate a significant undercount of fatalities at the state's publicly run facilities.

The department's Civil Division Tuesday night requested from state health officials data on deaths linked to New York's more than 1,000 private nursing homes.

The state Health Department

has publicly reported about 6,720 deaths from the respiratory bug in nursing homes and adult-care facilities.

But the true scope of the tragic toll in nursing homes is expected to be much higher.

Gov. Cuomo has angrily denied accusations that a March 25 state mandate barring nursing homes from turning away coronavirus-positive patients contributed significantly to New York's 33,000 COVID-19 deaths. *Steven Nelson*

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Child-free employees say they're sick of picking up the slack for their parent peers

By DOREE LEWAK

Being a working parent is hard, but some say being a working non-parent has never been harder.

As parents are tasked with working from home while juggling child care, child-free employees say they are expected to put in longer hours — and they're resentful.

"If you're dealing with people who have kids, suddenly it's, 'I have to do all this stuff for my kids, so I'll get back to you at 10 p.m. I know you don't have kids, so you'll be available,'" said Kristen Ruby, 33, the child-free CEO of Ruby Media Group, a public and media relations agency.

"There's this unwritten expectation that you'll work around their schedule and be flexible, because you're the one with fewer commitments," she said. "And that's not true."

The message, said the Westchester entrepreneur, is that non-parents are less valued.

"I think women who don't have kids are treated differently in business, and it's not for the better," said Ruby, adding that she feels excluded from social-media groups and events for women in business that only cater to working moms. "It creates almost a class divide between the haves and the have nots, but the haves are those who have kids and the have nots are those who don't."

Lisa, 37, a senior vice president in marketing and communications, said one of her colleagues at the firm where she formerly worked would use child care as an excuse to leave early — even though both had commitments at 7 p.m.

"She actually used the words 'I have two mouths to feed' as a reason why I had to stay and get it done versus her," said Lisa, who asked not to use her last name for professional reasons.

In the end, Lisa had to cancel a planned girls' dinner that had been on the books for weeks.

"If you have young children and you have to leave at 5 o'clock, no one's going to tell you that you can't leave. But if someone without kids has an early dinner commitment, there's the perception that it can get pushed, and it's not given the same weight," she said.

"It's not acceptable to say, 'I have to sign off early because I have a date,' but it's perfectly acceptable to sign off early to re-

lieve the nanny," Lisa said. "For people who are single, dating is a big part of our lives."

A Fast Company article earlier this month raised the idea of a paid sabbatical for all child-free employees equal to the paid time off that working parents enjoy.

"I'll never have extended paid time off like my parent peers would," said Lisa, who added that the coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated the divide. "Everyone's checking in on the parents — how they're doing with the kids. There's this feeling that I'm being forgotten. No one's checking in on me to see if I'm doing OK."

Labor and employment lawyer Dominique Camacho Moran told The Post she doesn't anticipate companies expanding paid benefits amid the continued economic fallout from the pandemic.

"To avoid employee tensions, we continue to recommend that employers identify neutral policies that offer employees similar benefits for a variety of reasons," said the Long Island lawyer. "For example, paid time-off policies that permit employees to use time for child care, other family obligations or personal priorities."

"Employers need to be consistent — the best plan is to know what your business can tolerate, so you're not treating any group better than the other," said Moran.

When Kristy Reed was at her last job in e-commerce, a colleague started a policy everyone could get behind: Each team member was free to spend time with their "baby" — whether it was an actual baby or a hobby.

"We all called it our baby — but everyone's baby was different. I had a tennis baby when it was time to play tennis," said Reed, who's 38 and lives in Midtown.

"Sometimes parents felt bad leaving the office when there was still a lot of work to do. It was [the company's] way of making it feel more equal," said Reed, who enjoyed her 6 p.m. tennis lessons guilt-free.

But working moms who can see both sides' perspectives ask for more acceptance.

"Before I started my own business, I used to be so annoyed by the women in the agency who left early or came in late because of their kids. I thought it was such a crotch of s - - t," said Charlotte Shaff, a 49-year-old mom of two who now runs her own p.r. agency in Phoenix.

"I was not aware of how much of a responsibility it is to raise your children and then try to do your job properly," Shaff said. "Now as a working mom, I totally get it and I give them tons of respect."

NY Post photo composite

MOTHER & REVILED



Omark Reyes

THE NON-PARENT TRAP: PR CEO Kristen Ruby (left) says her time is less valued because she doesn't have kids.

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Macron rage

Islam 'toon protests go global

By LIA EUSTACHEWICH

Emmanuel Macron's defense of Prophet Muhammad cartoons has sparked intense global outrage — with Muslims likening the French president to the devil and burning his photo in the streets.

About 10,000 Muslims rallied in Bangladesh's capital, Dhaka, on Tuesday, holding signs reading, “#Boycott boycott! #France” and a poster of Macron with shoes tied around his neck — a sign of disrespect. Some also carried portraits of Macron with an “X” on his face.

Meanwhile, Vatan-e Emrooz, a hard-line newspaper in Iran, portrayed Macron as the devil and called him Satan in a cartoon on its front page Tuesday.

Other protests have been held in recent days in Iraq,



EMMANUEL MACRON
Defends caricatures.

Turkey, the Gaza Strip and in opposition areas of northwestern Syria controlled by Turkey-backed rebels. Protesters in the West Bank burned photos of Macron.

The fierce backlash is in response to Macron's comments last week at a memorial for Samuel Paty, the 47-year-old history teacher who was publicly beheaded in a Paris suburb on Oct. 16

for showing caricatures of Muhammad in class.

His attacker, Chechen refugee Abdoulakh Anzorov, wanted to “humiliate and strike” Paty over the perceived insult, prosecutors said.

“We won't renounce the caricatures,” Macron said.

He pledged to fight “Islamist separatism,” saying it was threatening to take over some Muslim communities in France.

Macron's response also triggered outrage from Turkish leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who said Macron needs “some sort of mental treatment.”

“What is Macron's problem with Islam?” Erdogan said Saturday.

France has allowed displays of the cartoons, which are considered blasphemous by Muslims.

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Dig this: A steam shovel hidden in a Michigan lake for nearly a century has been dragged to the surface.

The historic steam-powered relic that last ran when Calvin Coolidge was president was excavated from Wixom Lake by determined local Mike Oberloier and a team of volunteers.

"My hopes and dreams are to make it dig again," Oberloier told reporters.

A Connecticut art museum is hoping to break a record for the world's largest abstract painting.

The 9-by-20-foot Jackson Pollock-like splatter painting created Saturday at the Museum of Contemporary Art Westport — by kids under the direction of local artist Trace Burroughs — awaits official recognition from Guinness World Records authenticators.

A 200-pound pet tortoise escaped in Alabama — but not for long.

The 60-year-old African spurred tortoise named Sparkplug fled its Sardis City pen for a nearby road, owner Ty Harris said. A motorist, thinking the tortoise was a wild animal, released him on a farm 20 miles away — until he read about the missing pet, retrieved and returned him.

A rare 4-foot-wide jellyfish has been discovered on a Florida beach.

Anatoli Smirnov of Naples spotted the giant sea creature while jogging Saturday along Vanderbilt Beach in Collier County.

Smirnov quipped to local media that he "almost got eaten by giant jellyfish."

Mysterious bright lights were spotted in the sky over Hawaii over the weekend — and astronomers believe the light show came from a rocket booster launched in 2008.

The booster that launched a Venezuelan communications satellite "has been orbiting around the Earth, but its orbit has been decaying and eventually decayed enough to get slowed down by the atmosphere and re-entered in over the Pacific," said a scientist at the W.M. Keck Observatory.

Natalie Musumeci, Wires

DATE A PRINCE?

By LEE BROWN

It's Jeffrey Epstein, wingman.

The late pedophile tycoon used to approach random beautiful women and try to get them to "date" his powerful friends — including Prince Andrew, according to a report.

An unidentified woman listed in Epstein's notorious black book told Mother Jones magazine the moneyman made the direct approach when she was at an art fair in Palm Beach, Fla.

"He came up to me and said, 'Would you like a date with Prince Andrew?'" she recalled.

It wasn't known when the alleged incident took place and it was unclear whether Epstein's direct approach worked.

Another woman in the black book, identified by the pseudonym Julie, told the mag it was Epstein's typical technique for finding girls.

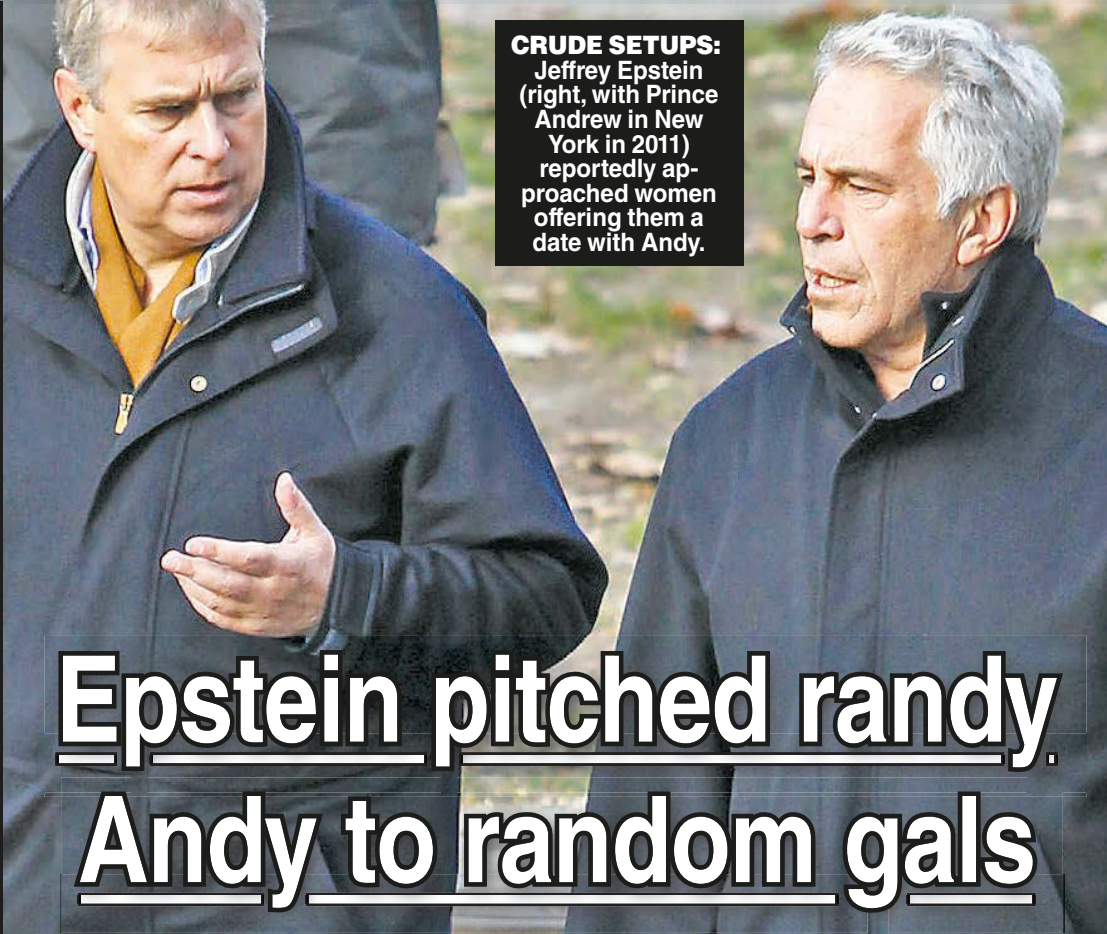
"He'd take some rich guy and introduce him to a girl," she said, claiming that the late pedophile set her up for an "incredibly awkward" meeting with Victoria's Secret founder Leslie Wexner.

"Wexner was this super-successful guy who didn't really have any life, and Jeff described him to me as completely socially inept," Julie told Mother Jones.

"Jeffrey told me, 'This guy [Wexner] has everything in the world, but he doesn't have anyone to share it with,' and Jeffrey knew all the girls in the world," Julie told the mag.

Mother Jones writer Leland Nally said he spent a year contacting all 1,571 people in the "gargantuan" black book after finding a copy in the "dark corners of the Internet" days after 66-year-old Epstein's jailhouse suicide in 2019.

Some in the book told the author



CRUDE SETUPS: Jeffrey Epstein (right, with Prince Andrew in New York in 2011) reportedly approached women offering them a date with Andy.

it may have actually been accused madam Ghislaine Maxwell's list, with many only having connections to her and not Epstein.

Nally reported his calls led to "a lot of panicked hangups" — saying he "spoke to billionaires, CEOs, bankers, models, celebrities, scientists, a Kennedy and some of Epstein's closest friends and confidants."

The writer even called a private number at Buckingham Palace, he told the Times of London.

"When someone replied, I just asked if Prince Andrew was there," Nally said, saying he was patched through to several people.

"Finally I was asked angrily how I got this number and who I was. Then they hung up on me," he told the UK Times.

Andrew has been accused in legal filings and TV interviews of having sex with one of Epstein's accusers three times, claims that the royal and Buckingham Palace have vehemently denied.

Wexner has previously said he is "embarrassed" about his connections to Epstein, whom he accused of misappropriating more than \$46 million while serving as Wexner's money manager.

Wexner has also denied any accusations against himself.

"Everyone has to feel enormous regret from the advantage that was taken of so many young women," Wexner said last year. "That's ... clearly something we all would condemn."

Lockdown no joke: suit DOJ loss on defame defense

Eight city comedy clubs and small theaters have sued Mayor de Blasio and Gov. Cuomo for coronavirus restrictions that have caused their venues to remain shut while other businesses have reopened.

The Manhattan federal suit — filed by, among others, The SoHo Playhouse, Triad, The Players Theatre and the New York Comedy Club — accuses the state and city of imposing lockdown restrictions arbitrarily.

With the Manhattan infection rate below 1 percent, "There is no longer legal justification for prohibiting people from earning a living if they work in or own what a governor deems a non-essential business," the suit states.

The City Law Department referred The Post to state officials. A Cuomo spokesperson called the suit "frivolous." Ben Feuerherd

The Justice Department cannot defend President Trump in the defamation case brought by rape accuser E. Jean Carroll, a judge ruled Tuesday.

The DOJ made the unusual request last month to take over Trump's defense in the civil suit — even seeking to replace Trump as the defendant — arguing that the president was acting "within the scope of his office" when he

publicly denied Carroll's sexual-assault allegation, leading to the lawsuit.

But Manhattan federal Judge Lewis Kaplan rejected the request, finding that the president couldn't be considered an "employee of the government" under the relevant legal meaning and further wasn't making the comments as part of his job.

"President Trump's comments concerned media re-

ports about an alleged sexual assault that took place more than twenty years before he took office," Kaplan's decision reads. "Neither the media reports nor the underlying allegations have any relationship to his official duties."

E. Jean Carroll claims that Trump raped her in a dressing room around 1995.

Rebecca Rosenberg, Priscilla DeGregory and Ebony Bowden

ROGUE GALLERY

How a tax loophole lets this billionaire buy and sell art at the public's expense

By STEVE CUOZZO

Stroll past the swooping-facade office tower at 9 W. 57th St., and you'll notice a sidewalk-level sign that reads "Solow Art & Architecture Foundation." Press your face to the windows, and you'll glimpse a half-dozen art treasures such as Jean-Michel Basquiat's "Parts, 1984" and works by Franz Kline, Alexander Calder and Richard Diebenkorn.

But a glimpse is all you'll get. The captive canvases are blurred by glare, reflections and distance. More tantalizing, other works might hang entirely out of sight behind space dividers, but there's no way to know from the street.

The public isn't allowed inside, even though the foundation's tax-exempt status has saved its founder, billionaire real estate developer Sheldon Solow, up to tens of millions of dollars since he registered it with the IRS as a nonprofit in 1991. Solow is the foundation's president, and his son, Stefan Soloviev — who's gradually taking up the real estate company's reins — is its vice president.

The gallery's off-limits policy has long been a sore point. Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer tweeted about it in 2018: "It is outrageous that a private art collection not open to the public gets a tax break!"

Now, art-world eyes are newly trained on the gallery because its "charitable" status will save Solow at least \$33 million in capital-gains tax on the upcoming sale of the foundation's most precious masterpiece,

Sandro Botticelli's "Young Man Holding a Roundel," according to Bloomberg. The 15th-century Renaissance treasure is to go on Sotheby's Manhattan auction block in January.

The portrait, which Solow bought for \$1.3 million in 1982, could fetch more than \$80 million — which would be the highest price ever paid for a work from an "Old Master" in Sotheby's history.

IRS private-foundation rules allow tax-exempt status for a private foundation that has an "educational," "charitable" or "public" purpose. But what those terms mean is a gray area.

Solow's IRS filing for 2018, Part IX-A of the 990-PF form for private foundations, states: "The foundation maintains and displays artwork for exhibition to the public" at 9 W. 57th St., which is widely known simply as 9 West.

But the gallery has never been open to the public. Security guards in the lobby turn away would-be visitors. A guard last week gave us the phone number of the Solow management office. No one answered repeated calls. A lawyer for Solow, Warren Estis, declined to

discuss the situation or to direct us to another Solow representative.

Art-Nerd.com founder Lori Zimmer is the author of a charming, just-published book, "Art Hiding in New York: An Illustrated Guide to the City's Secret Masterpieces" (Running Press), which features the Solow collection. She said this week,

"The entire purpose [of Solow's foundation] is a tax write-off, a way for him to continue to collect and buy art while having it technically 'on display' to the public, despite never being open.

"It is such a weird place," Zimmer said. She tries to pass by when Solow occasionally rotates his riches in and out of the gallery. "The handlers are probably the only people who get to see the works up close! The feeling of being stuck on the outside looking in is not lost on me."

Washington, DC-based real estate adviser and art collector Ethan Arnheim even created a parody web site, SolowFoundation.org. It listed the gallery's "hours" for different days of the week as "inaccessible," "closed," "no public hours" and "absolutely not."

“

It is outrageous that a private art collection not open to the public gets a tax break!”

— Manhattan Borough President
Gale Brewer



Lack of Success on fields

Remote kids banned

By SELIM ALGAR
Education Reporter

After first demanding \$500 million from Success Academy to use public athletic fields, the city's Department of Education has now barred the charter-school network outright because it's remote-only.

The DOE initially told Success that it would have to cough up the payment if it wanted to resume use of seven sites for extracurricular sporting activities this year.

But after Success called the demand "illegal" and threatened to sue, the agency changed its tune and said field use is limited to kids who are physically in school.

In a letter sent Tuesday, the DOE said that its reopening plan "limits in-person after-care activities to students who were in physical attendance on that given day in the same school building" and that "Success Academy must cease using DOE grounds and fields for after-school and extracurricular student activities immediately."

The DOE said the same restriction applies to regular public schools.

Success, which said the lock-out is impacting 350 elementary- and middle-school sports team members, is promising to renew its legal fight. "The DOE is going to incredible lengths to stop kids from playing on their own fields," said

spokesperson Ann Powell. "The fields are there, they're not in use, they don't have to be cleaned or staffed. There is no logical reason to deny these athletes the right to practice."

Success has also noted during the field impasse that it offered use of its classrooms to the DOE after electing to remain remote until January.

A DOE spokesperson said Tuesday that the exclusion is based on safety concerns.

"In our space, everyone has to play by the same rules, and any in-person activity that takes place after the regular school day should be limited to students who were in physical attendance on that given day," said DOE spokesperson Miranda Barbot. "This is for safety, and we're happy to revisit it and when they resume in-person classes."

In initially asking for the \$500,000, the DOE said that all city schools — including traditional public schools — were subject to new fees due to cleaning costs and budget cuts.

Countering that it's used the facilities for free for years, Success Academy said the DOE was pulling an "illegal" shake-down and readied a lawsuit.

The fields are connected to buildings where the charter schools share space with traditional public schools.

The charter network, which has about 20,000 students at 47 schools, chose a fully remote model until next year, when it will review its format.

Paris bomb threat, ammo scare

The areas around the Arc de Triomphe and Eiffel Tower were briefly evacuated on Tuesday for security alerts, Paris police said.

A bag filled with ammunition was found at Champ de Mars park near the Eiffel Tower, a police spokesman said.

Earlier, police said the area around the Arc de Triomphe had been evacuated following a bomb threat. *Reuters*

OUT OF SIGHT: Sheldon Solow, pictured below with wife Mia Fonssagrives, will reportedly save millions in capital-gains tax on the sale of Sandro Botticelli's "Young Man Holding a Roundel" (left) because of the tax-exempt status of his closed-to-the-public foundation (below).



NY Post photo composite

Arnheim told The Post, "There are very lax public-access requirements for non-profits. Solow might claim that because he has loaned some of the art to public institutions, like the Met — it has provided some public benefit. Of course, private collectors do that all the time and never receive any tax benefits. Actually, showing a work in a museum exhibition tends to increase its value."

To be fair, Solow lets the public enjoy a few of his holdings close-up. He loaned the Botticelli to the Metropolitan Museum of Art until February. A colorful Fernand Léger stained-glass mural adorns the real wall of Brasserie 8 ½, the restaurant in the basement of 9 West.

Solow installed Spanish artist Joan Miró's goofy-looking 1966 bronze "Moonbird" sculpture on the West 58th Street sidewalk behind the tower. Listed as a foundation asset on Solow's tax filing, it might satisfy the IRS requirement to "maintain and display" artwork. The IRS does not comment on specific foundations.

For Solow, a \$33 million tax break on the Botticelli sale might seem like a rounding error. At 92, his net worth is estimated by Forbes at \$4.4 billion. His Manhattan buildings total 4 million square feet of floor space. He owns elegant rental apartment towers clad in reflective black glass and empty lots awaiting development on First Avenue near the United Nations.

But the crown jewel is the gallery's home, 9 West, identified by the giant red "9" on the sidewalk. Central Park views helped draw tenants such as Apollo Global Management and Chanel. The dark-faced tower has been the scene of bare-knuckles lawsuits between Solow and former tenants such as Citibank, Avon and Morgan Guaranty Trust.

Not only 9 West, but the entire block rolling west of Bergdorf Goodman between Fifth and Sixth avenues has kept Solow's lawyers busy. Two years ago, he evicted an elephant-ivory-dealing art gallery that stood in the way of demolition plans. Now, he's trying to boot two small kosher restaurants a few steps west of the gallery for allegedly carrying insufficient liability insurance.

Solow has nearly completed 7 W. 57th St., a luxury condo tower. He's demolishing buildings across the street, where he's planning a much larger, 62-story "Billionaires' Row"-style residential tower.

So much clout might make Solow think he owns the sidewalks as well. A Post reporter taking iPhone photos of 7 West 57th, which was then under a partial Department of Buildings Stop Work Order, was interrupted by a man who called himself a "safety officer" and followed us down the block.

"Do you have an issue?" the guard asked. "Do you have a problem?" we asked, noting that we were on a public street.

Meanwhile, where's the Botticelli? It's been off the radar since its display ended at the Met's European galleries from May 2013 through January of this year.

A Sotheby's rep said the portrait will travel to Los Angeles in November and to London in December leading up to the January auction.

And until then? Just maybe, could it hang in solitary splendor, out of public view, behind the gallery walls at 9 W. 57th St.?

Only Solow knows. But don't expect him to tell us.

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Pro-Biden press won't police Biden White House

THE incredible decision by Twitter and Facebook to block access to a New York Post story about a cache of e-mails reportedly belonging to Democratic nominee Joe Biden's son Hunter, with Twitter going so far as to lock the 200-year-old newspaper out of its own account for more than a week, continues to be a major underreported scandal.

The hypocrisy is mind-boggling. Imagine the reaction if that same set of facts involved The New York Times and any of its multitudinous unverifiable "exposés" from the last half-decade: from the similarly leaked "black ledger" story implicating Paul Manafort, to its later-debunked "repeated contacts with Russian intelligence" story, to its mountain of articles about the far more dubious Steele dossier.

The flow of information in the United States has become so politicized — bottlenecked by an increasingly brazen union of corporate press and tech platforms — that it's become impossible for American audiences to see news about certain topics absent thickets of propagandistic contextualizing.

Try to look up anything about Burisma, Joe Biden or Hunter Biden in English, and you're likely to be shown a pile of "fact-checks" and explainers ahead of the raw information.

As has been hinted at by several prominent journalists, controversies erupted within newsrooms across New York and Washington in the last week. Editors have been telling staffers that any effort to determine whether or not the Biden laptop material is true, or to ask the Biden campaign to confirm or deny the story, will either not be allowed or put through heightened fact-checking procedures.

On the other hand, if you want to assert without any evidence at all that the New York Post story is Russian interference, you can essentially go straight into print.

Many people on the liberal side of the political aisle don't have a problem with this, focused as they are on the upcoming Trump-Biden election. But



Impunity: Newsrooms' censorship of The Post's reporting on potential corruption in the Hunter dynasty is now a bigger story than the scandal.

this same press corps might be weeks away from assuming responsibility for challenging a Biden administration. If they've already calculated once that a true story may be buried for political reasons, because the other "side" is worse, they will surely make that same calculation again.

What happens a month from now when an ambitious Republican like Sen. Tom Cotton leaks a document damaging to a President-Elect Biden? Or two years from now, if in the weeks before midterm elections, we get bad economic news, or a Biden-Harris administration foreign-policy initiative takes a turn for the worse? Are we sure those stories will be run?

The Republican version of the Burisma story — essentially, that former General Prosecutor Viktor Shokin was Elliott Ness, and Joe Biden intervened to fire him specifically to aid his son's company — is also not supported by evidence. What Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani and his cohorts have done to date is take a few unreported or underreported facts and leap straight to a maximalist interpretation of corruption on Joe Biden's part.

This isn't right, but the room to make that argument has been created by the ongoing squelching of information coming from Ukraine. The suppression story is almost certainly a bigger scandal than the Hunter Biden affair itself, but it's all become part of the same picture.

Examining the timeline of Hunter Biden's work for Burisma, and Joe Biden's urging of the firing of Shokin, shows several things that have been quietly non-reported on our side of the Atlantic.

One is that Shokin, at least early in his short tenure, opened several cases against Burisma (including a tax-evasion matter), while inheriting several others. Two, even after most American newspapers were describing Burisma cases as "dormant," there was evidence of open investigations, including one that specifically mentioned Hunter's company Rosemont-Seneca, and another involving the seizure order of February 2016, for which Shokin does appear to have responsibility.

Lastly, it's unquestionable that the cases against Burisma were all closed by Shokin's successor, chosen in consultation with Joe Biden, whose son remained on the board of said company for three more years, earning upward of \$50,000 per month.

This is all information that the press should want to ask more about, even before the issue of the e-mails in the New York Post story. They may not be world-shaking matters. But if such stories become off-limits just because they make the wrong people look bad, we do have a serious problem, no matter who wins the presidency.

Matt Taibbi blogs at Substack. Subscribe to his blog at taibbi.substack.com

FAST TAKES

Media desk: Creating a Costly COVID Narrative

The "news media can still be a very formidable force" when "there is a panic, the subject is unfamiliar to the masses and they speak with a generally uniform voice," notes John Ziegler at Mediaite. The pandemic gave the prestige press the opportunity to shape a "politically deadly" view of President Trump — and they've "taken full advantage of it," though it has "unnecessarily cost our children very dearly." The press, ignoring America's "far better rate of deaths per cases" than many similar countries, is "cementing the perception" that Trump's COVID-19 response "has been a disaster." Harsh lockdowns in states such as Michigan are hurting Trump politically, "because a portion of the population there, thanks to the media narrative, has determined that their governor's punishing actions were required due to Trump's ineptitude."

From the left: US Democracy's Not at Risk

"Our toxic partisan swamp just gets worse if liberals join conservatives in believing that the opposition party is ready to literally destroy the nation," Kevin Drum cautions at Mother Jones. "America has had gerrymandering, the Senate, the Electoral College and the Supreme Court since the beginning, and liberals rarely worried that they were an existential threat to democracy." Indeed, "every democratic country has institutions that get in the way of perfect representation, and this is often considered a good thing: the Senate as a counterweight to the passions of the House, for example, or the Supreme Court as the guarantor of the rights of the minority versus the will of the majority." Just "stop whining and, instead, do the hard work of winning more votes in more places."

Conservative: Joe, the Endless-War Candidate

Liberal interventionists and GOP neocons are salivating at the prospect of a Joe Biden presidency, warns Daniel McCarthy at Spectator USA, for the ex-veep "personifies the foreign policy of endless war." Biden voted "for the biggest and most foolish intervention" of the post-9/11 era — the Iraq War — and never repudiated it. Before that, he supported the 1999 Serbia intervention. Biden was supposed to be "one of the less hawkish members" of Team Obama, but Barack Obama "himself was less hawkish than Biden, however — and he still chose to go to war in Libya." Bottom line: Americans who hope to end the endless wars must pull for Trump.

Free-speech watch: Censorship Threatens Unity

When Facebook and Twitter moved "to suppress" The Post's Hunter Biden stories, writes William Voegeli at City Journal, it fueled "a larger debate about the power of social-media platforms." Are rules "about what can and can't be said clear and universally applicable"? Liberals "increasingly" view free speech "as an embarrassing anachronism," with some griping we suffer from too much of it. Yet there's a big problem with calls to "police" speech: "Who will guard the guardians" and what gives men like Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg legitimacy? Of course, people can boycott media that suppress speech they want to hear. But that will trigger another problem: "Our experiment in self-government will become even more precarious . . . as we inhabit not just neighborhoods but also cyberspace precincts colored either bright red or deep blue."



Mark Zuckerberg

From the right: Beware the Media Gatekeepers

Twitter's decision "to attempt to shut down the circulation of the New York Post story, which looked bad when it was made, looks even worse" with "more evidence in view," observes The New York Times' Ross Douthat. It's now certain "The Post's story was not some sort of sweeping Russian disinformation plot." And "it's hard to come up with any reasonable social-media rule that would justify the suppression of The Post's story that couldn't just as easily be applied to all the pieces of conspiratorial Trump-Russia reportage that didn't pan out." It's "reasonable for conservatives to fear" that "social-media censorship, carried out 'neutrally' by companies overwhelmingly staffed by liberals, will expand its reach with the vocal support of an increasingly consolidated and liberal group of mainstream-media gatekeepers" — including Douthat's own newspaper — that "shape the way" much of the country receives news.

— Compiled by The Post Editorial Board

No Rhyme or Reason

Other outlets continue to verify The Post's reporting on Hunter Biden's efforts to monetize his family connections overseas. Yet Twitter, which sought to suppress our story, continues to bar The Post from the platform — two weeks later.

The Post obtained a copy of Hunter Biden's hard-drive, from a laptop left at a Delaware repair shop in 2019.

Reporters found an e-mail in which an executive at Burisma, the Ukrainian energy firm that paid Hunter \$50,000 a month, thanked Hunter for setting up a Washington meeting with his father, then-Vee Joe Biden. Other e-mails show Hunter negotiating a \$10 million-a-year deal with a Chinese firm for "introductions alone." And he'd hold, besides his own share, a 10 percent stake for "the big guy" in a company set up to do business with the Chinese.

The country's two social-media giants acted immediately after our stories went online, with Twitter locking The Post's account and a Facebook exec bragging about suppressing the story.



Then Tony Bobulinski, Hunter's former business partner, confirmed not only the e-mails about China, but told The Post that Joe was "the big guy."

Meanwhile, neither Joe Biden nor Hunter Biden has argued the validity of the laptop nor the e-mails; the vice president simply claims the China deal never came to fruition. Receipts show the computer repair shop took in the laptop. Elected officials confirm the laptop was handed over to the FBI.

It isn't a hack. It isn't Russian disinformation. It's all true.

So the only reason for social media to continue to punish The Post is not because of any "fake news" concerns — it's because they're mad about any story that hurts Joe Biden.

Twitter is still demanding The Post delete six posts linking to our reporting (tweets that don't violate their rules!) before restoring our account — even though any user can now freely share those stories.

There's no rhyme or reason to this, just vindictive partisanship from outlets that claim to be "neutral platforms."

Carranza to Parents: Drop Dead

City Hall and the Department of Education blindsided parents *again* Monday, this time with an announcement that November would be the only time they can opt their kids out of all-remote learning for the rest of the school year.

For months, Chancellor Richard Carranza told parents they'd be able to make quarterly decisions on all-remote vs. "blended" learning. No more — and his laughable justification is that the loss of choice means "stability," to the benefit of all.

The chancellor says schools need to finalize enrollment so they can allocate education resources and manpower. In other words, the unions made them do it. Or, at least, Carranza and his team just can't handle the complications and still keep the

United Federation of Teachers happy.

Many parents were waiting until after flu season and/or a possible second coronavirus wave before sending their children back into classrooms. Oops: They made the mistake of trusting Carranza's word.

Now he says you can't wait — which will surely push parents inclined to caution into keeping their kids home through June.

The chancellor also announced a new grading policy, with no penalties for absenteeism or finishing work late.

Basically, Carranza has opted for zero accountability for students, teachers or anyone else. Kids will just compile empty credits toward worthless diplomas.

Parents are supposed to be OK with a system that barely even pretends to teach.

Beijing's War Threat

As if 2020 needed to get uglier, the Chinese Communist Party is loudly threatening to invade Taiwan, its democratic and self-ruled neighbor.

Beijing has been increasing the militarization of its shores off Taiwan, upgrading its missile bases and deploying its most advanced hypersonic missile, the DF-17, to the area, the South China Morning Post reports.

The Communists believe they own Taiwan and have long threatened to take it "back" by force if provoked. Yet Beijing's doing all the provoking here.

Since early September, China has been running near-daily military air exercises and patrols in the Taiwan Strait — some with more than 30 combat aircraft and half a

dozen ships. It's the most aggressive and blatant show of intimidation in nearly 25 years.

In response, Taipei is feverishly bolstering its defenses. And it's getting help from Washington: On Monday, the Trump administration approved nearly \$2.4 billion in arms sales, including up to 100 Boeing-made Harpoon Coastal Defense Systems and 400 Harpoon Block Surface Launched Missiles.

That follows deals last week for a total of \$1.8 billion that include 135 Boeing-made air-to-ground cruise missiles, 11 Lockheed Martin truck-mounted rocket launchers and six MS-II0 reconnaissance pods for Taiwan's fighter jets.

Let's hope Taiwan's determination, and clear US support, gets Beijing to back down.

Fulfilling Trump's Promise: Barrett's Rise to Top Court

THE ISSUE: The Senate's confirmation of Justice Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court.



Amy Coney Barrett

•The promise from the women's liberation movement to American women was that they can, in fact, "have it all." Today, that promise has been fulfilled with the confirmation of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court ("It's Official: ACB is A-OK," Oct. 27).

For the first time, a woman with school-aged children will have a seat on the highest court of the land. This historical moment was due, in no small part, to the tenacious fighting of liberal Democrats who spearheaded the liberation movement.

Why, then, are they not celebrating? Why did they oppose the nomination of such a qualified woman? Why do they now condemn the very result that they have fought so fiercely to achieve over the last 50 years? Their answer is Trump. **Jack Kaufman**
Naples, Fla.

No worries. We are in good hands with Barrett. All is never lost. Should a decision be overturned, then Congress simply has to actually work, like the rest of us. This can be a good thing.

Packing the courts by adding partisan judges will only relieve Congress of doing their duty. How lazy.

Deirdre Harvey
Valley Stream

•It's official. Amy Coney Barrett is now a justice. It is without question a great day for America, except for the 47 Democrats who voted "no" to her confirmation.

Sen. Chuck Schumer stated: "This is the darkest day for the Senate."

Newsflash to Schumer: The darkest day for the Senate was the day that he was elected.

Peter Gryzmolowicz
Orleans, Mass.

•Interesting how everyone emphasizes a balanced court as opposed to an independent court.

It is clear that Republicans nominate independent judges, whereas Democrats typically nominate loyal liberals.

The function of the court is not to balance a populist tightrope but to determine constitutionality. The function of the legislature is to make law.

JoAnn Lee Frank
Clearwater, Fla.

•Rushing Judge Barrett through the confirmation process, just days before the presidential election, was not the most ideal situation.

But because Barrett will bring skill, humility and grace to the Supreme Court, along with her over-the-top qualifications, I find it difficult to hold the untimely confirmation against her.

For some senators, it may have been a tough call of conscience, as their heads and hearts competed for justification. But if Barrett had not been confirmed, it would have been a major loss for the court.

•Elections have consequences. I strongly believe that one of the main reasons why the Republi-

cans were united behind Trump in 2016 is because of the Supreme Court.

Trump has fulfilled his election promise of appointing conservative, textualist and originalist justices. From Neil Gorsuch to Brett Kavanaugh to now Barrett, this current Supreme Court is now the most originalist it's been in decades.

I want to congratulate 48-year-old Barrett on being the youngest female appointed to the Supreme Court. I am very impressed with her intellect and her recollection under hours of drilling.

Liberals want the judiciary to legislate for them. Judges aren't confirmed to legislate. They're there to follow the Constitution.

Teddylee Gray
St. Ann, Jamaica

•How shameful were the Democrats, led by Sen. Schumer, to boycott the committee vote on Barrett's nomination?

She handled all their attack questions with great aplomb, class and dignity. As a past college professor, I would even say that she "schooled" all the Democrats.

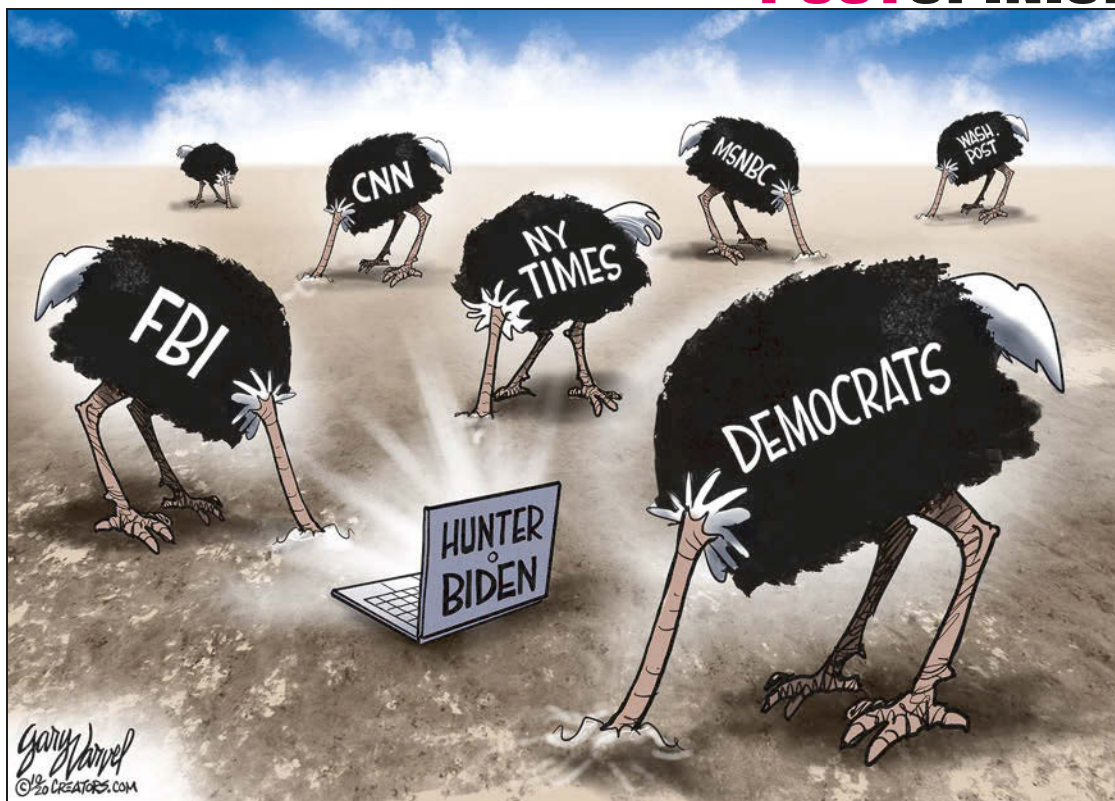
One question asked by Hawaii Sen. Mazie Hirono was especially shameful and disgraceful. She should be censured and hopefully get voted out of office.

Trump is a businessman, not a politician, and simply delivers results. He keeps his word and now will have named one-third the Supreme Court justices in the first four years.

We need the president elected for another term, and I'm confident of his success. **David J. Smith**
Stamford, Conn.

E-MAIL: letters@nypost.com or **WRITE** to The Editor, The New York Post, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036. Include name, address and daytime phone number. No unverifiable letters will be published. The Post reserves the right to edit all letters.

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A School-Bailout Fiasco

FAMILIES and businesses are watching their bottom lines and stretching each dollar. But House Democrats are pushing a plan to prevent America's schools from doing the same thing.

The proposed HEROES Act, laying out their demands for the next federal COVID-19 relief package, pledges \$175 billion to K-12 public schools to help cover pandemic-related costs and backfill lost state revenues. But to qualify, states *must keep spending* as much on education as they averaged during the past three years from now until mid-2022. That condition was a priority for teachers unions, which claimed that otherwise states might shift funds to other priorities.

But there's a real chance that state tax receipts won't rebound to their pre-pandemic levels until 2023 or later, meaning states should be looking for long-term fixes instead of short-term bailouts. And no state needs to look more carefully at how it spends education money than New York.

Requiring Albany to maintain its spending levels would exacerbate a fiscal crisis. The Empire State is deep in the red. Education spending — a quarter of the state budget — is bolded in the ledger.

New York's per-pupil education spending increased more than 250 percent between 1998 and 2018, an acceleration that dwarfed the national average. Now at more than \$24,000 per student, the state is such an outlier that it would lead all states — and countries — even if Gov. Cuomo implemented a threatened 20 percent state-aid cut.

New York also presents the strongest case that high K-12 spending doesn't automatically translate into results.

As Cuomo observed in 2011, when per-pupil spending was “only” \$18,850, “it's not about how much we spend, but the results that matter. As data show our education spending hasn't resulted in performance.”

Endemic waste and inefficiency continue to grip the state education system. Over the past two decades, achievement on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, the so-called nation's report card, modestly

IAN KINGSBURY

declined despite marked increases in spending.

The very prospect of a federal bailout means states such as New York are less interested in reforms that would reduce costs and improve education outcomes

New York schools have historically struggled with accountability — even in cases of misconduct. Tenured Gotham teachers who face discipline charges, for instance, are either paid not to work, and placed in “rubber rooms,” or deployed for clerical work or substitute teaching.

When school districts are forced to lay off teachers, state law requires them to let go their most recent hires. This last-in, first-out practice makes no allowance for a teacher's performance

— and ultimately requires more layoffs, since junior teachers are generally paid less. In 2019, city schools in Rochester laid off 152 of their newest teachers, as “LIFO” requires. The district, three years prior, had identified 146 teachers as “ineffective” using state accountability measures, but there was little to no overlap between the two groups.

Moments of crisis can serve as catalysts for real reform — if policymakers allow it. During the Great Recession, Mayor Mike Bloomberg shepherded changes that improved the efficiency and quality of city public schools.

Yet Bloomberg's reforms have since fallen out of favor. Most notably, Mayor de Blasio has retreated from reforms that rewarded or sanctioned schools for performance. He also opposes expansion of charter schools, which must maintain performance and enrollment targets to remain open.

Charter schools significantly outperform traditional public schools in New York City — and at lower cost. As of 2017, New York City charter schools cost taxpayers \$10,500 less per pupil than district schools.

Meanwhile, Gotham public schools continue to deliver lousy outcomes at high costs. If Congress writes a blank check to the Empire State that stifles fundamental reform — both fiscal and substantive — students will continue to lose.

Ian Kingsbury is an education-policy fellow at the Empire Center.

4 Reforms To Prevent NY Pension Collapse

GOETHAM'S public-health crisis risks becoming a financial crisis — including by ravaging the underfunded retirement systems promised to public workers. Four essential steps could avert catastrophe.

Even before the crisis, the city had set aside just 2 percent of the savings needed to cover retiree health benefits for city workers, while its pension funds contained only 79 cents for every dollar needed to cover projected benefits. These fringe benefits consumed one-third of the city's municipal payroll and one-tenth of the city's budget.

Now the city's future revenues are suddenly even less secure. New York City faces a \$9 billion, two-year budget shortfall that is compounded by Albany's own \$14.5 billion deficit. Between 15 and 20 percent of Manhattanites were still absent from the city as of this summer, rising to 50 percent in the wealthiest neighborhoods whose tax revenue helps sustain the city's coffers.

Market losses on the scale of the Great Recession today would mean New York City paying an additional \$41.2 billion to make the public pension system whole, according to the city's Independent Budget Office. And already, the city spent half of its savings for Other Post-Employment Benefits expenses to cover this year's budget deficits, only worsening its projected \$100 billion OPEB liability.

The risk that the city's retirement systems will crowd out other spending priorities, break its promises to retirees and blunt competitiveness is very real. But the options for change are limited, as New York is one of the few states with a constitutional prohibition on amending existing public-employee pension plans, es-

JOHN HUNT & MICHAEL HENDRIX

sureing high-quality coverage to municipal retirees.

Then there are New York City's retirement plans, which should vest faster and have more portability to help the city attract a high-quality workforce, rather than short-changing younger and more mobile talent. The city should transition to a cash-balance system as in Rhode Island, a way to offer affordable benefits to all employees, no matter how long they stay in city government.

For more immediate savings, the city should consider paring back supplemental benefits, which are

The city had set aside just 2 percent of the savings needed to cover retiree health.

entially guaranteeing them.

That's why we propose a four-pronged strategy for reform.

Start with management. The current system wastes a surprising amount on overhead by running five parallel retirement systems, all with their own real estate, redundant staff and extra audits. The IBO estimates that by consolidating them into three funds, “the city could save \$20 million in the first years, with the savings growing to \$41 million by the second year.”

Second, health care. New York City's liabilities total \$132,464 per employee, the highest of any major city in the country. Gotham is also the only city in the country to pay for Medicare Part B premiums, and it's one of the few employers anywhere to provide full and fully subsidized health coverage for retirees under the age of 65.

Lax enforcement of eligibility rules could mean that many people covered under a spouse's health plan still receive gold-plated subsidies. Eliminating Medicare Part B subsidies, requiring a half contribution to premiums and making sure retirees take alternative plans when they're on offer would save more than \$1 billion dollars a year, while still en-

not constitutionally protected. Each year the city spends more than \$1.7 billion giving uniformed retirees a \$12,000 bonus, contributing to union annuity funds and guaranteeing a 7 percent return for teachers' voluntary contributions. All three of these programs should be scaled back or eliminated.

Finally, the city is considering an early retirement program, offering employees full benefits if they retire immediately. The city and state often implement these programs during fiscal crunches, but the impulse to refill the positions that just emptied tends to undermine the whole exercise. This time, the crisis has forced the government to find new efficiencies, while making certain city functions obsolete under social distancing. Any coming initiative must target positions that will not need to be replenished.

Big reforms to the public retirement system are long overdue. Now that savings are desperately needed, there is no excuse not to make them.

John Hunt is the author of the “Reforming New York City's Public Retirement System,” a recent report from the Manhattan Institute, where Michael Hendrix is director of state and local policy.

Sally Brompton

Daily Horoscope

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

You may find it hard to trust people today but what's the alternative? As mind planet Mercury moves out of your sign and back into the most sensitive area of your chart your suspicions are sure to be aroused - and there is sure to be nothing in them!

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

No matter what hardships you face today they will be easier to bear if you get together with friends and have a good time. You don't have to run away from your troubles but you do have to view them as the minor irritations they really are.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

The message of the stars today is that you will get more out of life if you stop treating it as such a struggle. Despite what it may look like at times, not everyone wants to be your enemy. When it comes to friends you are in fact blessed.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT YOURSELF AND WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS AT SALLYBROMPTON.COM

♊ AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Positive thinking is a must over the next few days, especially if you find yourself grappling with situations that are new to you. Act as if you cannot fail. Give others the impression that you are on top of the job. Remarkably, you will be.

♋ PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

Why are some people so critical? It's because they envy your ability to breeze through life avoiding the kind of dramas they can't seem to shake. Tell them what your secret is. Tell them being nice to everyone means the universe is always nice to you.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 20)

Whatever disagreements you may have had with partners and loved

ones you can put them behind you now. As Venus moves into the relationship area of your chart little differences will no longer matter so much. It's what you have in common that counts.

♉ TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

This may be a busy time for you but you can make things easier for yourself by not taking everything quite so seriously. You can and you will get plenty done today, but that sense of panic you've been feeling should now start to fade.

♊ GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Venus, planet of harmony, moves into the most creative area of your chart today, so if you feel the urge to do something artistic don't hold back - follow your muse and see where it takes you. Suddenly, out of nowhere, opportunities to

shine will arrive.

♋ CANCER (June 22-July 23)

This is an excellent time for anything connected to your home and family. Let those you really care about know that no matter what may have happened in the past as far as you are concerned it is now all forgotten. Never hold grudges against those you love.

♌ LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

Trust your instincts and let them guide you in new directions. No matter where you go or what you do over the next 24 hours the universe will smooth your path and introduce you to some truly lovely human beings. And they'll think you're lovely too!

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

You can learn a lot from someone you meet socially today, and if there is anything of a financial or business nature you want to discuss with them they will happily give you some really good advice. If they are successful it means you can be successful too.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)

Venus, your ruler, moves into your birth sign today, so the best Libra qualities will come to the fore. No matter how challenging events may be over the next few days you will deal with them all with a minimum of fuss. What's to get angry about?

BIRTHDAY WEDNESDAY

Your heart and your head will battle constantly over the coming year, and there may be no clear winner. If in doubt which direction to take, remember that the voice that really counts is the one that comes from deep within. Your conscience always knows best.

Post Weather Report

Wednesday



Today: Clouds giving way to some sun. High 56 to 62.

Tonight: Some clouds. Low 47 to 53.

Friday



Evening: Patchy clouds. Low 31 to 37.

Thursday



Tomorrow: Heavy rain from Tropical Rainstorm Zeta. High 51 to 57.

Tomorrow night: Heavy rain from Zeta. Low 41 to 47.

Saturday



Evening: Becoming cloudy. Low 39 to 45.

Almanac

YESTERDAY'S CONDITIONS AT CENTRAL PARK THROUGH 6PM

Temperature

High: 59, Low: 53, Mean: 56

Departure from Normal

Yesterday: +3 degrees

Precipitation

Yesterday: 0.00", Month: 2.77", Year: 34.47", Normal year to date: 41.50"

Heating Degree days yesterday.....9

Total for the month (normal).....147 (219)

Total since July 1 (normal).....183 (261)

Last season to date.....166

Wind Chill (at noon yest.).....55

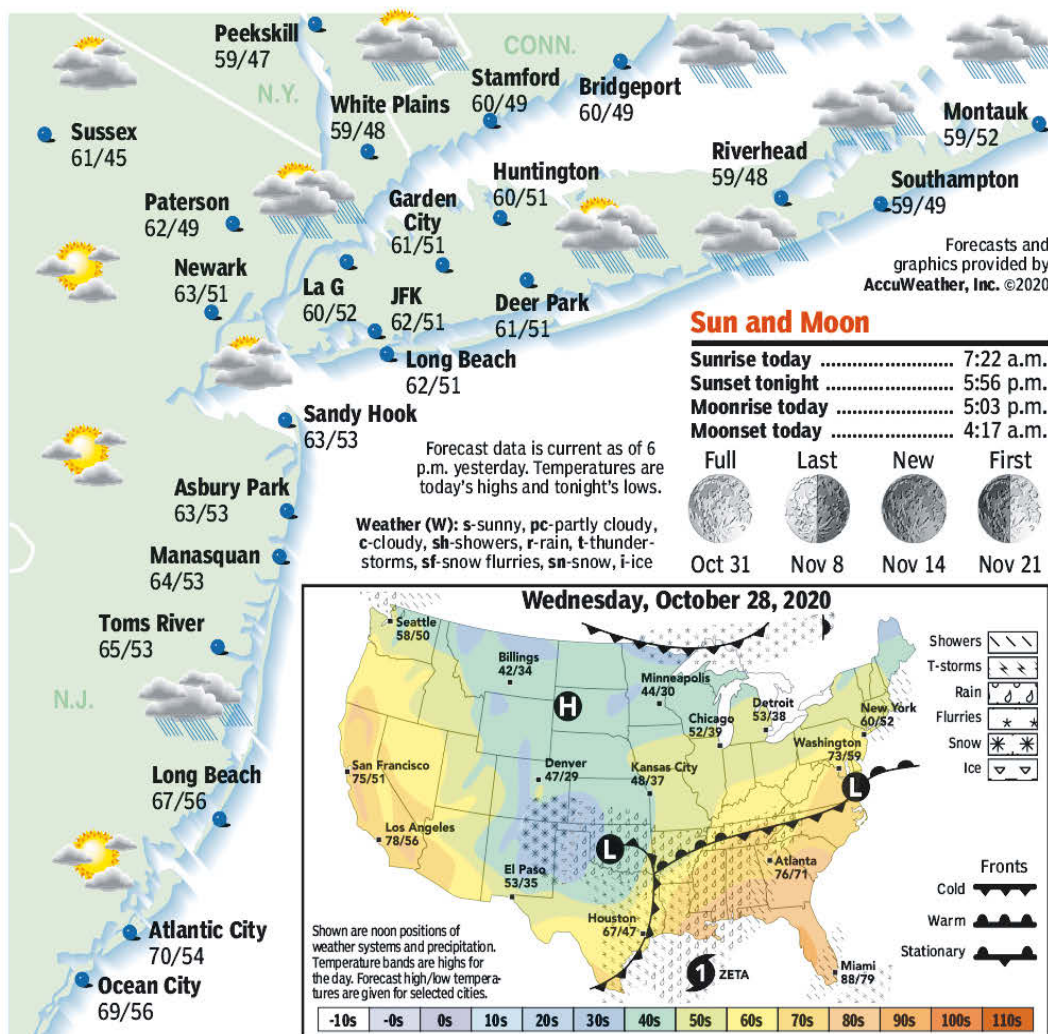
UV index (for Wed.).....1 (Low)

Humidity (at noon).....74%

AIR QUALITY

Pollen: Low. Predominant pollen: Ragweed

AQI rating: (for Wed.).....Good



AccuWeather | Get the NEW app

New York Tides

	TODAY		TOMORROW	
High Tide for	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
Coney Island	6:23a	6:37p	7:04a	7:18p
Fire Island	6:29a	6:43p	7:07a	7:20p
Hempstead	10:32a	10:56p	11:10a	11:34p
Huntington	10:16a	10:40p	10:54a	11:19p
Jones Inlet	6:07a	6:21p	6:48a	7:02p
Montauk Point	7:35a	7:50p	8:12a	8:28p
Port Washington	10:40a	11:04p	11:19a	11:43p
Sandy Hook	6:27a	6:41p	7:08a	7:22p

Regional cities

	TODAY	TOMORROW
Albany	52/39/pc	48/31/r
Danbury	57/45/r	48/35/r
Glens Falls	53/37/c	47/31/r
Gr Barrington	54/42/r	49/33/r
Kingston	59/44/r	50/35/r
Liberty	54/41/pc	45/32/r
Monticello	55/40/pc	46/33/r
Newburgh	59/46/r	50/35/r
Poughkeepsie	59/45/r	50/35/r
Saratoga Springs	53/40/pc	49/30/r
Stroudsburg	60/45/pc	48/35/r
Torrington	56/44/r	48/33/r
Syracuse	55/41/pc	49/32/r

World cities

	TODAY	TOMORROW
Athens	66/60/r	72/59/pc
Baghdad	93/57/pc	93/56/pc
Beijing	66/39/pc	64/36/pc
Berlin	54/47/pc	52/45/sh
Cairo	86/70/pc	88/68/s
Dublin	50/43/sh	59/54/r
Geneva	61/50/pc	57/45/sh
Hong Kong	84/75/c	80/73/r
Jerusalem	80/62/pc	80/61/pc
Kabul	71/34/s	68/31/s
London	54/46/c	57/56/sh
Madrid	59/45/pc	63/43/s
Mexico City	78/53/t	76/48/pc
Montreal	48/36/c	44/28/c
Moscow	51/39/s	50/36/pc
Paris	57/51/sh	59/53/sh
Rio de Janeiro	86/74/s	84/73/pc
Rome	66/45/s	67/50/pc
Sydney	67/62/sh	67/58/sh
Tokyo	69/57/pc	72/54/s

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Stocks slide

Wall Street's losses mounted for the second straight day Tuesday as momentum slowed on worries about rising virus counts and Washington's inability to deliver more aid to the economy.

Delivering jobs

United Parcel Service said it is planning to hire 50,000 seasonal workers this Friday at its annual "UPS Brown Friday" hiring blitz. The company is aiming to add a total of 100,000 seasonal workers.

Popeyes lift

Burger King parent Restaurant Brands International posted a bigger-than-expected quarterly profit, powered by the success of fried-chicken sandwiches at Popeyes and demand for food delivery as consumers stay at home.

Off to Nasdaq

Home-rental startup Airbnb, which is aiming to raise \$3 billion in its initial public offering, plans to list its shares on the Nasdaq. Airbnb did not give a timeline for when it may complete its IPO.

M'soft thrives

Microsoft posted another quarter of strong earnings fueled by pandemic-era demand for cloud-computing services, videogaming and computers. Sales rose 12 percent, to \$37.2 billion, in its fiscal first quarter.

Sources: AP, Dow Jones and Reuters

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RE-ENGAGE IN TALKS

LVMH, Tiffany eye new prenup to save wedding

Perhaps he won't jilt her again

LVMH boss Bernard Arnault could be ready to propose again to Tiffany after calling off their luxury engagement. A looming court case may have caused LVMH to go courting again, but this time with a reportedly slightly lower offer.



NY Post photo composite: Alamy and Getty images

By NOAH MANSKAR and JOSH KOSMAN

LVMH and Tiffany & Co. may be poised to kiss and make up ahead of a dramatic court battle over their \$16 billion proposed marriage, The Post has learned.

The luxury conglomerate and the storied New York jeweler are renegotiating the terms of their proposed union after LVMH tried to walk away last month — sparking a heated legal battle that's slated to go to trial in January, sources said.

The new terms would see LVMH, the French luxury giant behind pricey labels like Louis Vuitton and Fendi, purchase Tiffany for \$130 to \$133 per share, according to CNBC.

That would be a slight discount from the original price of \$135 per share that the companies settled on last year, valuing Tiffany at more than \$16 billion.

Each dollar that's knocked off the per-share purchase price would save LVMH about \$121 million based on Tiffany's number of outstanding shares.

Tiffany has indicated that it's open to a lower price as

long as it isn't less than \$130 per share and LVMH closes the deal without changing any more terms, according to the Financial Times, which first reported the renegotiations on Tuesday.

LVMH declined to comment on the reported talks. Tiffany did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The developments came a day after the European Commission cleared the blockbuster acquisition, giving it the final regulatory approval needed to complete the deal ahead of a Nov. 24 deadline set last year, Tiffany said in a securities filing.

The bitter legal spat was sparked by LVMH's move in early September to postpone the November nuptials, prompting the New York-based engagement-ring maker to sue to keep the deal intact.

Tiffany's Delaware Chancery Court lawsuit accuses Paris-based LVMH of making excuses for why they could not wed by Nov. 24, and of dragging its feet on seeking approval for the acquisition from antitrust authorities in key jurisdictions,

including the European Union.

Depositions in the case — including possible testimony from billionaire LVMH chief Bernard Arnault, the richest man in Europe — are expected to begin early next month, which may have put pressure on LVMH to renegotiate the deal instead of attempting to kill it altogether.

LVMH countersued late last month, claiming that it's entitled to back out of the merger because Tiffany's business prospects had turned "dismal" as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, leading the 183-year-old gem retailer to post a \$65 million loss in the spring.

Tiffany called the argument "specious" given that it returned to profitability after one rough quarter.

LVMH also has cited a letter from the French government that purportedly barred it from proceeding with the deal in response to the United States' threat to impose tariffs on French goods. Tiffany has blasted those claims as "excuses," claiming LVMH has been stalling to get out of the deal.

nmanskar@nypost.com

Popcorn dreams of screen savers

There's still a glimmer of hope for the movie-theater industry this year, despite dismal box-office earnings and rising coronavirus cases, analysts say.

The country's two biggest markets, New York City and Los Angeles, still could give sickly sales a much-needed jolt if they reopen before the end of 2020.

"A true box-office restart might not be that far off on the horizon," said MKM Partners media analyst Eric Handler, who noted that Warner

Bros.' "Wonder Woman 1984" and Disney's Agatha Christie mystery, "Death on the Nile," are both still slated for December 2020 premieres.

The analyst noted that New York City and LA are inching closer to meeting their respective state criteria for reopening cinemas.

Gov. Cuomo allowed movie theaters to reopen around the state last weekend. And media watchers expect New York City to follow close behind as COVID-19 clusters shrink

in parts of Brooklyn and Queens.

While Los Angeles is battling rising cases, Handler said he is "hopeful that by Thanksgiving," both cities will be able to reopen.

"A lot can happen in the next four to six weeks," the analyst said, adding that if those cities resume ticket sales, the grim box-office predictions for this year and 2021 could be "eased."

Currently, about 90 percent of US movie houses are open, but they are operating at reduced capacity and are

all located outside of the country's highest-grossing markets.

So far this year, the domestic box office has grossed about \$1.95 billion, compared with \$11.32 billion in 2019, according to ticket-sales tracker Box Office Mojo.

The National Association of Theater Owners said if major markets reopen, box-office returns could get a meaningful boost, as long as studios release new films that draw people to the theaters. *Alexandra Steigard*

Bodega bag drag

Owners defy plastic ban over cost

By LISA FICKENSCHER

Many New York City bodegas continue to dole out plastic bags with purchases — risking hefty fines — because paper bags are too costly and hard to find, a new survey has found.

The Bodega and Small Business Association, which has 5,000 members, conducted an informal survey of Bronx-based bodega owners this week and found that at least 35 of the businesses were still handing out single-use plastic bags at checkout, despite enforcement of the statewide ban beginning on Oct. 19.

“We are taking the chance on giving out plastic bags, risking getting a fine, because paper bags are too expensive,” said association President Francisco Marte, who owns several bodegas. As The Post has reported,



paper bags are also in scarce supply because there aren't enough factories to meet the rising demand.

Bodega owners have found that a package of 200 paper bags costs up to \$50 compared with \$11 for a

package of 600 single-use plastic bags, the survey said.

Meanwhile, the state won't let retailers recoup those expenses. Stores can charge a 5-cent fee for each paper bag they hand out, but that money goes to state

and municipal coffers.

Some retailers who were able to procure paper bags ahead of the Oct. 19 deadline have begun charging about 20 cents to break even on the costs, Marte said.

Retailers caught breaking the rules risk a \$250 fine for the first offense and \$500 for each subsequent offense.

So far, none of Marte's members has been fined, he said, adding that the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, which is in charge of enforcing the ban, has only been handing out warnings.

“No fines were issued in the first week of enforcement,” the DEC confirmed in a statement, without saying when the fines would start being issued.

Retailers “will receive a warning notice for a first violation,” the department said. *lfickenscher@nypost.com*

T-Mobile dives into ‘stream’

Yet another service provider is jumping into the TV-streaming wars. This time, it's T-Mobile and its TVision, with live news, entertainment and sports channels, starting at \$10 a month.

T-Mobile says it's aiming to offer a simpler and cheaper service for people dissatisfied with cable.

But it's entering a crowded field, and most similar streaming services have found it difficult to sustain low prices over time.

TVision will offer three branches of its service. TVision Live will have live news, entertainment and sports channels at three tiers priced at \$40, \$50 and \$60 a month, depending on how

many sports channels a customer wants. The \$40 option offers about 30 channels, including ABC, NBC, Fox, CNN, Fox News, ESPN and Fox Sports Networks.

Then there's TVision Vibe, which is \$10 a month and includes about 30 channels from AMC, Discovery and Viacom, but no sports.

TVision Channels will let buyers sign up for individual channel streaming services, starting with just three: Starz, Showtime and Epix.

TVision will be available nationwide for T-Mobile wireless customers Nov. 1, for legacy Sprint customers Nov. 13, and for T-Mobile prepaid customers and nonsubscribers next year. *AP*

More blacks in boardrooms

In the five months since George Floyd's death in police custody on May 25, Russell 3000 companies have appointed 129 black board members, compared with 38 appointed in the preceding five months, according to Board Prospects, a digital platform for companies to find board talent and C-suite executives. Procter & Gamble, Pinterest, PepsiCo and Target were among the companies to add black directors. *Dow Jones*

Mother Jones' bone to pick with FB



By KEITH J. KELLY

LEFT-leaning investigative magazine Mother Jones has taken another shot at Facebook — this time claiming the social network's “Big Brother” tactics have resulted in layoffs at the mag.

On Monday, Mother Jones news editor Patrick Caldwell revealed that the news-censorship tactics of the Mark Zuckerberg-led social-network behemoth have cost the mag some \$400,000 in lost revenue over the past three years.

The loss was particularly painful since the company had to reduce payroll also to offset losses due to the coronavirus, resulting in the layoffs of six members of its 90-person staff, Caldwell wrote in an urgent appeal to

readers for donations.

“That \$400,000 inevitably meant real hardship,” he wrote. “When we sat down to discuss the budget with Mother Jones’ management, the options were stark: If we couldn’t find agreement on pay cuts affecting the majority of staff, we could be forced (after factoring in severance) to lay off as many as six people.”

The dustup kicked off last week after The Wall Street Journal reported that Facebook, fearful of charges that it was censoring right-wing sites after the 2016 election of Donald Trump, altered its algorithms to choke traffic to many of the sites on the left of the political spectrum starting in 2017. Zuckerberg, CEO and founder, personally approved of the plan.

The day the report came out on Oct. 16, Mother Jones’ editorial director for growth and strategy, Ben Dreyfuss, issued a post that appeared to accuse Facebook of downplaying the changes by claiming that everyone would be impacted.

“In late 2017 and early 2018, I had multiple meetings with Facebook executives about algorithmic changes. They were making ad-

justments, they said, and all publishers should expect traffic and engagement to go down a bit, but not in a way that favored or disfavored any single publication or class of publisher (unless that organization engaged in various bad behaviors).”

Mother Jones’ Editor-in-Chief Clara Jeffery and CEO Monika Bauerlein, meanwhile, accused Facebook of singling out the mag.

“Facebook used its monopolistic power to boost and suppress specific publishers’ content — the essence of every Big Brother fear about the platforms, and something Facebook and other companies have been strenuously denying for years,” they wrote.

The latest salvo comes as Zuckerberg and other Big Tech CEOs get set to testify on Capitol Hill on Wednesday over their content-moderation decisions.

“As a news editor here at Mother Jones, I don’t usually write about our internal business operations, and I’ve never written an e-mail to our readers,” said Caldwell, who is also co-chair of the Mother Jones editorial-staff union.

“It’s thanks to those dual roles of editor and union rep that I was so en-

raged when it was revealed that Facebook had changed its algorithm in such a way that it boosted conservative outlets like Ben Shapiro’s Daily Wire at the expense of progressive outlets, specifically us,” he said.

“It’s hard to calculate exactly what these changes mean for Mother Jones,” said Caldwell, “how many people did not see our articles, how many potential subscribers and donors we did not reach, but a very conservative estimate of just the loss in advertising revenue is more than \$400,000 between the time those algorithm changes were implemented and the end of our last fiscal year, this June.”

NowThis, a leading producer of video news for mobile use, said Tuesday it has unionized with the Writers Guild of America East.

The parent company, Ben Lerer’s Group Nine — which also owns sites like Thrillist, The Dodo, Seeker and PopSugar — agreed to recognize the union as the bargaining agent for the 90-person editorial staff. That was after an overwhelming majority of workers on

Monday handed in cards saying they wanted to be represented by the WGA, according to a union rep.

The quick result stands in sharp contrast to the contentious battles the Writers Guild had to fight when it unionized Hearst magazines earlier this year and when the NewsGuild of New York unionized BuzzFeed early last year. While BuzzFeed recognized the NewsGuild in the summer of 2019 after writers staged a one-day walkout, a contract isn’t imminent, sources said.

Hearst in February lost a bid to prevent its workers from voting to unionize, but the publishing giant has yet to begin contract negotiations. Vice, Vox Media and The Huffington Post are all operating under collective-bargaining agreements after management voluntarily recognized the Writers Guild as their bargaining agent.

Among the topics on the union’s agenda at NowThis are pay and fairness, but also diversity concerns.

Group Nine, like most media companies, was forced to make deep cuts to its workforce in April when it said it was chopping 7 percent of its then-700-person workforce.

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RIDING HIGH
Hogs' luster restored.

Harley revs up profits

Harley-Davidson beat profit expectations Tuesday as tighter inventories helped drive up prices, and it reined in costs as part of Chief Executive Jochen Zeitz's restructuring plan, sending its shares up 22 percent.

Overall shipments were down only 6 percent in the third quarter, recovering from a 59 percent slump in the prior quarter — an indication of a rise in demand for large cruisers.

The sharp recovery from pandemic lows comes as Zeitz looks to recharge the business by shifting the focus back to big bikes and traditional markets such as the United States and Europe.

Harley also tightened supplies and cut production, driving up prices for pre-owned bikes, which used to be a drag on new motorcycle sales.

"We are managing inventory in line or rather a little short of demand," Zeitz said. "Dealers are selling new bikes at or very close to MSRP [manufacturer's suggested retail price]." *Reuters*

Etching out a Cube merger

Spin Master, the company behind the Etch A Sketch and kiddie show "PAW Patrol," has agreed to acquire Rubik's Brand for about \$50 million, linking two of the world's top toy makers.

Like sales of Uno, Monopoly and Barbie dolls, Rubik's Cube purchases have spiked during the pandemic, according to the puzzle maker's chief executive officer, Christoph Bettin. *Bloomberg*

Censory perception



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, who is under fire for limiting the sharing of The Post's stories about Hunter Biden's business e-mails, will push today for Congress to maintain an FCC provision that grants legal protections to online platforms.

Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey, who also will appear before the Senate panel, has locked The Post's Twitter account since Oct. 14 even though he said Twitter was "wrong" for the way it blocked The Post's Hunter Biden exposé.

Post photo composite

Zuck: 86'ing '230' bad idea

Mark Zuckerberg agrees that "Section 230" needs to change, but he doesn't recommend changing it too much.

The Facebook CEO warned on Tuesday that there could be bad consequences to rolling back protections from Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act — a 1996 landmark federal law that gives online platforms some legal protections from the content posted by their users.

In prepared testimony he's slated to deliver Wednesday on Capitol Hill, Zuckerberg warned that eliminating Section 230 protections could actually result in more censorship on the Web, as companies will actively seek to avoid publishing anything that could get them into legal trouble. Without the law, he says, tech companies could face liability for doing even basic moderation, such as removing hate speech and harassment.

"Without Section 230, platforms could potentially be held liable for everything people say," Zuckerberg said in prepared re-

marks to the Senate Commerce Committee.

Still, he added that "Congress should update the law to make sure it's working as intended," and that "We stand ready to work with Congress on what regulation in these areas could look like."

Zuckerberg is scheduled to testify to the Senate panel along with Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey and Google boss Sundar Pichai.

Section 230 has been blasted by Democrats and Republicans alike, including President Trump, who have questioned content-moderation decisions taken by the companies. Republicans have accused Big Tech of concealing an anti-conservative bias, a claim that the companies strongly deny.

FCC Chairman Ajit Pai this month sent shock waves through Silicon Valley when he announced plans to "clarify the meaning" of Section 230 following backlash against Twitter and Facebook for blocking links to The Post's story on Hunter Biden's e-mails. *Nicolas Vega*

Hedger bets on tech drop

Technology stocks, which have surged for months during the pandemic, likely hit their top last month, hedge-fund investor David Einhorn wrote Tuesday, adding that he's prepared for a drop by betting against more names, including second-tier companies and ones that have only just listed their stock.

Einhorn, who runs Green-

light Capital, warned, "We are in the midst of an enormous tech bubble," but noted that "September 2, 2020, was the top and the bubble has already popped."

Einhorn said he's "adjusted" his portfolio's short-book with bets that stock prices will fall by "adding a fresh bubble basket" of mostly second-tier compa-

nies and "recent IPOs trading at remarkable valuations."

The signs are clear, Einhorn wrote, citing the race to list companies publicly, high volumes in speculative trading instruments and a "parabolic ascent toward a top."

Einhorn did not identify the stocks he's betting against. *Reuters*

SORDID SACHS SUIT

Affair-report axing

By THORNTON McENERY

Goldman Sachs staged a sham investigation to cover up a top lawyer's steamy office affair — and then pushed out an attorney who tried to blow the whistle, an explosive lawsuit claims.

Goldman former Vice President Marla Crawford alleged in a Monday lawsuit that the Wall Street powerhouse punished her for speaking out against its global head of litigation, Darrell Cafasso, whom she claims carried on an affair with a younger subordinate in violation of the bank's rules — and under the protection of his boss and friend, Goldman general counsel Karen Seymour.

Cafasso became "infatuated" with the junior lawyer, identified as Jane Doe, upon arriving at Goldman in 2018, Crawford's complaint alleges. Doe confided to Crawford that Cafasso had told her, "I think I'm falling in love with you" and "I have feelings for you I have never had for anyone else but my wife," the suit says.

Meanwhile, it was "hardly a secret" that Cafasso "frequently drank to excess" at company events, the suit alleges. He invited the junior lawyer out to drinks and had regular one-on-one meetings with her, promising that if she acquiesced to his advances, he would "return the favor" professionally, the suit claims.

An affair began, and Cafasso appeared to make good on his offer, giving her high marks on performance reviews where she had been struggling, according to the suit.

In October 2019, Cafasso's wife, having learned of the affair, called Jane Doe and told her she was "praying for her," according to the suit. Cafasso then turned on his paramour,

telling her, "You're a temptress" and "You're the devil's pawn," blaming her for his own conduct, the suit claims. Eventually the junior lawyer received a call from Cafasso and his wife alerting her that the affair was over, according to court papers.

The lawsuit alleges that Doe quit Goldman in embarrassment, then hired Gloria Allred, the famed litigator who has represented many of Bill Cosby's victims. She "was likely paid a sum of money and forced out of the bank," according to the suit.

Goldman's chief counsel, Seymour, tapped white-shoe law firm Weil Gotshal to conduct an internal investigation into Cafasso's behavior, but Crawford and other potential witnesses weren't interviewed, the suit alleges. According to the suit, Seymour "told another senior lawyer that it was a 'sticky situation,' adding, 'Let's try to put this genie back in the bottle.'"

Cafasso took just two weeks off before returning to work. When Crawford complained, Cafasso turned on her, giving her poor marks on her annual review, the suit says. In September 2020, Crawford allegedly was notified her job as associate general counsel was moving to Dallas and she could move there and take a pay cut to keep it. She claims she was forced to quit, as she is caring for her 83-year-old mother.

Cafasso and Seymour declined to comment through a Goldman spokesperson.

"We conducted a review of the allegations in this complaint and found that they were completely without merit," a Goldman spokesperson said in a statement.

tmcenery@nypost.com

The Post Puzzle Page

SCRABBLE

G₂ R₁ A₁ M₃ S₁

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E₁ E₁ L₁ H₄ D₂ W₄ C₃

A₁ E₁ Y₄ M₃ R₁ N₁ M₃

A₁ I₁ O₁ D₂ C₃ T₁ F₄

E₁ I₁ I₁ O₁ T₁ R₁ D₂

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

2nd Letter Triple

Double Word Score

PAR SCORE 155-165
BEST SCORE 210

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

TODAY'S ANSWER

66 RACK 1 =

13 RACK 2 =

65 RACK 3 =

66 RACK 4 =

210 TOTAL

D₂ E₁ H₄ C₃ L₁ E₁ W₄

I₁ R₁ E₁ M₃ M₃ A₁ Y₄

D₂ I₁ O₁ T₁ C₃ A₁ F₄

E₁ T₁ I₁ I₁ R₁ O₁ I₁ D₂

PAR SCORE 155-165

Directions: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 Letter words get 50 point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE players Dictionary, 4th Edition.

Bridge

South dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH
♠ Q 9 6 5 2
♥ A J 9 7 4 3
♦ 6 4
♣ None

WEST
♠ K 10
♥ K Q 10 8 6 2
♦ A 10
♣ J 4 2

EAST
♠ 7
♥ None
♦ Q J 9 7 5 3
♣ Q 10 8 7 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A J 8 4 3
♥ 5
♦ K 8 2
♣ A K 9 6

South 1 ♠ West 2 ♥ North 4 ♠ East All Pass

Opening lead — ♥ K

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When I watched today's deal in a penny game, West was the dreaded Grapefruit, he of the acid disposition and matching tongue. He berates his partners without mercy. The other members of my club worship the quicksand he walks on.

When South opened one spade and Grapefruit overcalled in hearts, North leaped to four spades, as well he might. Grapefruit led the king of hearts, and South ... played low from dummy! East discarded.

Grapefruit then led another heart. East ruffed, but South overruffed, cashed the ace of trumps and took the A-K of clubs to discard dummy's diamonds. He claimed an overtrick, and Grapefruit went wild.

"Partner, you're so dumb you couldn't spell CAT if I spotted to you the C and T."

"Why didn't you take your ace of diamonds?" East wanted to know. Grapefruit told the kibitzers that East's golf bag lacked a full set of clubs.

East missed an astute defense. He must ruff the king of hearts at Trick One and lead the queen of diamonds.

Word Force

ANGIOGRAM

From the word or phrase above, form **AT LEAST 16** five-letter words, without using more than one form of the same word. For example, drink or drank (not both).

ANSWERS IN TOMORROW'S POST
Yesterday's word:

LEAPING
agile
alien
align

angel
angle
glean
panel

penal
plain
plane

Wonderword

How to play: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **Circle their letters only. Do not circle the word.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MILITARY JUNTAS

Solution: 8 letters

E A B R U T E G G R E E C E N

O E E F I R T S T E M L O U

P N R F C A M P L F S I I R T

E I T C E N L U A I H T E E S

N U P C E H R L S C A P G W B

O G A L A D L S I Z I Y E O O

I G R I A U O H I A P F L P D

T N T R F B C N T T N I Y P Y

A I Y I F R A U O E V C A G D

N R J E A I I C S I P C E R I

I I A G L P R C A C T P O O S

B T I I O C A E T L H C U U S

M L V S W E R C S I N I A P E

O I S B R A Z I L O O S S F N

C E V A L C N O C G A N G M T

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Alliance, Body, Bolivia, Bossism, Brazil, Brute, Cabal, Camp, Caucus, Chile, Circle, Civilianization, Combination, Conclave, Concord, Crew, Decree, Dissent, Egypt, Faction, Fall, Feat, Fiji, Fires, Friction, Gang, Greece, Group, Guinea, Haiti, Meet, Oligarchic, Open, Outfit, Pacify, Pact, Party, Peru, Posse, Power, Puppet, Ring, Rule, Schism, Strife, Stun
Yesterday's Answer: Extract
Treasures 24 through 41 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

POST SUDOKU

To solve a Su Doku, you must put a number from 1 to 9, in each empty box.

Each number must appear once in each horizontal row, as well as in each vertical column and in each of the 3-by-3 grids.

Impossible? Not once you get the hang of it. Tips and in depth strategies at

www.SudokuWiki.org

For more

Su Doku puzzles

see tomorrow's

New York Post

Solutions on Page 35

© Syndicated Puzzles

Very Easy #5,254

			8	5	2			9
3			4	7				6
	8	4				2	5	
6				2		3		
	3		9		5		6	
		1		6				8
	2	7				9	4	
8				9	4			5
5			7	1	3			

Difficult #5,044

						6	1	
8								9
6		4		1		3		
	6		4				3	8
		8				7		
1	7				2		5	
		1		9		8		6
4								2
	9	5						

Quick Crossword

- Across**
- 1 Word with support or enemy
 - 5 Dance wildly
 - 9 Miller's salesman
 - 14 Princess loved by Hercules
 - 15 "Have ... Right?": Honeycombs hit of 1964
 - 16 Maine town on the Penobscot
 - 17 Graceful swimmer
 - 18 Tommy Dorsey, e.g.
 - 20 Bonny one
 - 21 Paving supply
 - 22 How silverware is often sold
 - 23 USN rank
 - 24 _ man
 - 25 Agree to less
 - 26 Word with more or less
 - 28 Tabled, for now
 - 30 Bernie Taupin's forte
 - 32 Flor del amor
 - 33 Face on a fin
 - 36 Car with a tri-shield logo
 - 37 IRA options
 - 38 Shell lining
 - 40 Like give and take: Abbr.
 - 41 Tony Hillerman detective Jim
 - 43 Like year-end financials
 - 44 Utter
 - 45 Navy Midshipmen's mascot Bill, e.g.
 - 46 Coffeehouse orders
 - 49 Either "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs" filmmaker
 - 51 Obamacare, briefly
 - 54 Sci-fi invaders
 - 55 Hogwarts mail carrier
 - 56 "Riiight!"
 - 57 Flowerlike marine animal
 - 59 Knucklehead
 - 60 Spot for a pot
 - 61 Barely gets (by)
 - 62 Bakery fixture
 - 63 Stand in a studio
 - 64 Ukr. and Est., once
 - 65 News article intro
- Down**
- 1 Chapel divider
 - 2 Martin's TV partner
 - 3 School outing
 - 4 Little chicken tenders?
 - 5 Snowsuit clip-ons
 - 6 Others, in Tabasco
 - 7 Griddle tenders
 - 8 Verbal hesitation
 - 9 One in danger of going off
 - 10 Richly decorated
 - 11 Humid, say
 - 12 First name in photography
 - 13 Dark time in Pisa
 - 19 Foundation for an argument
 - 24 Unofficial means of communication
 - 27 Juice box brand
 - 29 Turndowns
 - 30 WSJ news item
 - 31 "Sho' Onuf"
 - 33 Superior to ... and what can go with the starts of 3-, 7-, 9- and 24-Down
 - 34 Maidenform product
 - 35 Slithering swimmer
 - 37 Head of Cuba?
 - 39 Prefix with -gram
 - 42 "Steppenwolf" author Hermann
 - 43 Forever young, it seems
 - 44 Bundle on the farm
 - 46 Tricky pool shot

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14												
17												
20												
23												
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62												
65												

P	A	R	S	E	S	A	R	A	H	S	S	E
A	M	A	I	N	A	L	A	N	A	U	P	N
C	O	D	D	L	E	D	E	G	G	S	G	A
E	R	I	E	A	D	E	S	B	W	A	N	A
S	E	I	S	M	S	B	E	E	R			
L	I	T	T	L	E	D	E	B	B	I	E	
E	N	D	I	T	R	E	R	A	N	E	S	L
G	O	O	P	R	E	D	D	Y	W	E	L	L
A	N	C	F	U	E	G	O	D	O	T	E	S
D	O	U	B	L	E	D	E	C	K	E	R	
D	E	A	D									
B	E	R	E	T	B	R	E	T	P	R	I	E
E	P	A	B	U	R	Y	T	H	E	L	E	D
A	I	M	E	M	E	N	D	L	A	N	E	D
R	C	A	D	A	L	E	S	M	Y	E	R	S

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER
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47 "Get Here" singer Adams
48 Torino farewells
50 One with a deed
52 Gave up formally
53 Observe Yom Kippur
56 Object of adoration
58 Abril, por ejemplo

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EMPLOYMENT

FINANCIAL

Associate - Trading sought by Bank of America Corporation to perform hedging of \$138B commodity index & \$1BB FX index swaps book, coordinating across global products, regions, & execution facilities. Req's: Bach degree or equiv. & 2 yrs exp in: Programming, both local & parallel, on some form of cloud collaborative environment, preferably in Python with a focus on object-oriented coding; Calculating investible systematic strategies with underlying across multiple derivatives such as futures & options in at least one major asset class (equities, commodities, etc.) Job Site: New York, NY. Ref:#4684926 & submit resume to Bank of America Corporation, 1114 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036. No phone calls or emails. EOE.

PROFESSIONAL

Analyst, Quantitative Modeling w/ S&P OPCO LLC in NY, NY. Perform analytical research on companies to determine the composition of the index, adjusting data in our calculation system, & adjusting the data to conform to the rules of the index. Position req's a Master's deg (US or foreign equiv) in Math, Stats, Fin, Math Fin, Econ, or rel. Must have working knowledge of the following skills gained through coursework or exp: VBA; C++, Python, R or MATLAB; Stochastic Calculus, Partial Differential Equations, Monte-Carlo Methods, Finite Difference Methods, & Numerical Algorithms; Model validation/calibration and back-testing models; Equity mkt. commodity, bond & derivative pricing; & SQL. Qualified Applicants: Email resumes to PeopleMovementSupport@spglobal.com & ref the job code 256913. S&P Global is an equal opportunity employer committed to making all employment decisions w/out regard to race/ethnicity, gender, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, disability, marital status (incl domestic partnerships & civil unions), sexual orientation, military veteran status, unemployment status, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state or local law. Only electronic job submissions will be considered for employment. If you need an accommodation during the application process due to a disability, please send an email to: EEO.Compliance@spglobal.com & your request will be forwarded to the appropriate person. The EEO is the Law Poster http://www.dol.gov/ofccp/regs/compliance/posters/pdf/eeopost.pdf describes discrimination protections under federal law.

Classifieds 212-930-8100

EMPLOYMENT

PROFESSIONAL

Canadian Legal Search Director (NY, NY) Place Canadian legal candidates in the U.S. market for domestic legal search firm. Evaluate candidate profiles and review candidates work product to ensure alignment between job opp and candidate, mostly for potential Canadian legal applicants specializing in legal practice areas of transactional law and litigation. Juris Doctorate and 1 year of exp in job or 1 year of legal recruitment exp placing Canadian Attorneys and legal professionals. Mail resumes only to: Lateral Link Group NY, LLC, c/o Lateral Link Group Co-Op, LLC, Attn: Saghar Doustar, 0940 E. 2nd St, Ste 2, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Data Scientist I needed by Home Box Office Inc. in New York, NY to conduct quantitative & qualitative research to understand audience segments, creative performance & consistently recommend strategies. Mail resume HR Services (GMRIA), 3400 Riverside Dr., 5th Flr, Burbank, CA 91505. Refer to Job # 4935994.

Senior Bioinformatics Analyst (F/T) sought by Albert Einstein College of Medicine (Bronx, NY) Prov biz anal. Imp spt for biomed research. Req: Bach deg in Biomed sci, Bioinform, Comp sci, Mngmt info sys, Eng. (All) or rtd field + must have 3 years of exp. EO/AA EMPLOYER. Mail CV to A. Pakielat @ 1300 Morris Park Ave, Bronx, NY 10461.

TRANSPORTATION

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Exp'd Drivers w/CDL, Class A or B w/Forklift and Electrical Jack Exp. Starting Salary \$1,000/week + OT Contact Liliana 718-444-8200

TECH CAREERS

AllianceBernstein L.P. seeks AVP/Sr Decision Support Eng'r in NY, NY, to produce bus. intelligence (BI) by querying data repositories, identifying data patterns & generating reports. Req'mnts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in CS, Eng'g (any), Math or rel. field & 7 yrs of progressively responsible exp in job offered or rel. occupation: dsng'g & dvlpng enterprise class bus. intelligence (BI) app solutions; performing relational database dsng, dvlpmt, & querying using SQL on MS SQL Server or similar database; & bldng ETL & reporting solutions using BI tools. 5 yrs of exp must incl utilizing Agile softw dvlpmt methodology; performing data analysis & bldng data visualizations using Tableau, Qlik, Power BI, or SSRS; & programming in C#, Java or Python. Submit resume to Shane Hutton at AllianceBernstein L.P., 150 4th Ave N, Nashville, TN 37219 & indicate job code KG090320LP.

IT: The Bank of New York Mellon seeks Specialist User Experience Analyst in NY, NY to provide & lead moderate to complex user exp activities that incl user research & testing, interactive design & visual design. Req'ts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in CS, Comp Eng'g, or rel field & 6 yrs progressively respons exp in job offered or rel occupation: performing app softw dvlpmt & providing technl support; designing, coding, testing, & implementing app programs; conducting reviews of test plans & test data; participating in all stages of Software Development Life Cycle; participating in req'ts gathering & creating detail design docs (DDD); running tests to identify errors & revise programs; executing test plans & recording test results; providing technl leadership during project dvlpmt, incl construction & implementation phases; & utilizing COBOL, DB2, MQ, CICS, Microsoft PowerPoint, & Microsoft Visio in execution of duties. Pls apply at www.bnymellon.com/careers & utilize ref. code #2009455. Pls indicate "referral source - advertisement - NYP"

TECH CAREERS

Sr Data Science Associate sought by PIMCO (NY, NY) to employ analytical techniques that support mgmt in decision-maing & policy formulation, & improv sales & mrktng campaign effectiveness for a portfolio of fin products & svcs. Must have Master's deg in Comp Sci, Info Sysms or rtd field, & 3 years of experience in position offrd or rtd pos. Academic courswrk or experience must incl: conducting big data analytics to perfrm predictv analytics & wrking w/ bus intelligence/data analysis of data warehouse to gain insights on client/user behavior; utiliz Python to code m-learning models that classify & predict client behavior for systm optmztn; utiliz advncd DB skills to build data architecture for storing results from analytics output; querying & preparng data using optimztd approach, & working w/ SQL, Oracle, HIVE, DB2 DBs; utiliz Spark/Hadoop & Python coding to identify erroneous data, & suggesting solutions to correct root cause; interprtng bus use cases & trnslating bus reqs into technicl specs to dvlp solutions that meet bus & client needs; coding prototype model solutions for data analysis, predictiv analytics, m-learning & clustering using Python & SQL; & utiliz SQL & relational DB concepts, Python, Jupyter & Excel. Background check & drug screening required prior to employment. Mail resumes to HR, PIMCO, 650 Newport Center Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660 (Ref. Job ID: 29393). EEO/AEE.

Technical Solutions Manager w/ S&P Global, Inc. in NY, NY. Work closely w/ Architecture, Tech, & Program Mgmt team on individual Editorial apps & capabilities such as Content Creation, News Letter platforms, Real time news platforms, Price Reporting & Content Packaging, & Distribution & Delivery w/in the Editorial segment of Platts. Position reqs a Bach deg (US or foreign equiv) in Comp Sci, Bus Admin, or rel field & 8 yrs of exp in the job offered or rel role. Must have 8 yrs of exp w/ Core Java, J2EE, JSP, JavaScript, Spring, SOAP, REST, JMS, XML & ORM frameworks. Must have 6 yrs of exp designing Rich User Interface applications such as JQuery, ext js. Must have 5 yrs of exp w/ multiple app, web servers that incl WebLogic, JBoss, Tomcat, & Apache; configuring clustered app servers; Publishing Apps incl Adobe Creative Suite. Must have 3 yrs of exp w/ databases incl RDBMS, NoSQL & Graph; DevOps practices, & using tools & technologies such as Ansible for configuration mgmt, & Jenkins & GO for Continuous Integration & Delivery; web based content authoring, content mgmt platforms; & app security, single sign on, high availability, & scalability. Must have 2 yrs of exp w/ OpenText Products, Content Hub for Publishers v16.x, Information Hub v16.x & BIRT; cloud infrastructure, EC2, EBS, SFS, VPC, Route 53, Elastic Load Balancing & Managed Services such as S3, RDS, Lambda, API Gateway, SQS & SNS; & defining and driving adoption of enterprise ref architectures using TOGAF. Qualified Applicants: Email resumes to PeopleMovementSupport@spglobal.com & ref the job code 257092. S&P Global is an equal opportunity employer committed to making all employment decisions w/out regard to race/ethnicity, gender, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, disability, marital status (incl domestic partnerships & civil unions), sexual orientation, military veteran status, unemployment status, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state or local law. Only electronic job submissions will be considered for employment. If you need an accommodation during the application process due to a disability, please send an email to: EEO.Compliance@spglobal.com & your request will be forwarded to the appropriate person. The EEO is the Law Poster http://www.dol.gov/ofccp/regs/compliance/posters/pdf/eeopost.pdf describes discrimination protections under federal law.

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NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF TELEPHONIC PUBLIC HEARING
The Trust for Cultural Resources of The City of New York (the "Trust") will consider issuance of its tax-exempt Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2021 (Whitney Museum of American Art) (the "Bonds"), in one or more series in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$110,000,000 to provide funds to (i) refund all or a portion of the Trust's outstanding Revenue Bonds, Series 2011 (Whitney Museum of American Art) (the "2011 Bonds"), and (ii) to pay a portion of the administrative, legal, accounting, financing and other expenses incidental to the issuance of the Bonds and related purposes. The proceeds of the 2011 Bonds were used: (a) to finance or refinance a portion of the costs and expenses relating to the acquisition, construction, renovation, improvement, furnishing and equipping of an art museum facility at 99 Gansevoort Street, Manhattan, New York 10014, which is owned and operated by the Whitney Museum of American Art, a New York not-for-profit corporation (the "Institution"); (b) to pay a portion of the interest that accrued on the 2011 Bonds during the development of the project described in (a); and (c) to pay a portion of the administrative, legal, accounting, financing and other expenses incidental to the issuance of the 2011 Bonds and related purposes.
A public hearing will be held by the undersigned Secretary or by the Assistant Secretary of the Trust by teleconference open to all members of the public by dialing 1-877-211-3621; Passcode: 983239#, commencing at 10:30 a.m., on November 5, 2020. The subject matter of the hearing will be the issuance of the Bonds. Interested persons are invited to attend and be heard. Written comments and general inquiries may be directed to the undersigned.
s/s Anne Adams Rabbino
Secretary,
The Trust for Cultural Resources
of The City of New York
c/o Bryant Rabbino LLP
650 5th Avenue, Suite 3300
New York, NY 10019

Public Notice is hereby given, that beginning on the date, as enumerated below and continuing from day to day, until all items are sold, **Storage Post Self Storage** will sell at public sale, to the highest bidder for cash, goods for which a lien on the same is claimed. The following goods, household items, electronics, wares, merchandise, furniture, tools, and misc. items for storage and other charges for which a lien on the same is claimed, to wit:
Date/Time of Sale:
November 12, 2020 at 1:00 PM
Location: www.StorageAuctions.com
Location (Facility Address):
88 Hazel Street, Glen Cove NY 11542
Washington Jaramillo #B216. A \$100 per unit cleaning deposit will be collected at the time of sale and returned when the unit is left broom clean. All sales are with reserve and are subject to prior cancellation. Sale rules and regulations are available at the time of sale.

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NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that by virtue of certain defaults by DeNardo Capital Management LLC ("Debtor") under a loan, dated December 28, 2018, in the original principal amount of \$1,000,000.00 (the "Loan") by and among Debtor and Silver Point Finance, LLC, as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent for certain Lenders ("Agent" or "Secured Party"), Specialty Credit Holdings, LLC ("SPC"), and Zee Bridge Capital LLC ("ZBC") and together with SPC, collectively, "Lenders"), which Loan has a current principal balance of \$1,053,116.62 as of October 1, 2020, and which Loan is secured by a certain Pledge and Security Agreement, dated December 28, 2018, from Debtor to Secured Party ("Pledge Agreement"), whereby Debtor pledged to Secured Party, one hundred percent (100%) of its limited liability company membership interests (collectively, the "LLC Interests") in DeNardo Capital II LLC, ("Company"), which Company owns certain property located at 30, 40 and 42 South Broadway, and 0-20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30 Marker Ridge, Irvington, Westchester County, New York (the "Property"), and in accordance with Agent's rights with respect to the collateral for the Mezzanine Loan (the "Security"), and Agent's rights under the Uniform Commercial Code, will conduct a public sale (the "Sale") of the Security on December 17, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. as follows: (A) in the lobby, after security, of the Richard A. Daranco Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, White Plains, New York 10601; and (B) by remote auction via Cisco WebEx Remote Meeting, Meeting link: (https: //bit.ly/UCCDenardo, Access Code: 126 460 1580; Password: DenardoUC1 (33627368 from phones and video systems), Call-in number: +1-415-655-0001, Password: 1264601580 to the highest qualified bidder; Agent has appointed **Mr. William Mannion, licensed auctioneer** (DCA #796322), and/or **Mr. Matthew D. Mannion, licensed auctioneer** (DCA #1434494) to conduct the public sale. This public sale of the Security involves the sale of membership interests in the Company and does not involve the direct sale of the Property.

Agent is the holder of all of the rights of the Lenders under the promissory note, the Pledge Agreement, and all other loan documents relating to the Loan, each dated December 28, 2018, by and between Debtor, Agent, and Lenders. Agent is also the holder of certain senior secured mortgage loans in the aggregate principal amount of \$18,000,000.00 (collectively, the "Mortgage Loans") which encumber the Property, which Mortgage Loans will remain outstanding notwithstanding the Sale.

The Security consists of a one hundred (100%) percent of all membership interests owned by Debtor in the Company, and the "rights and interests" therein as described in the Pledge Agreement. The Sale shall be conducted in respect of an indebtedness with a current principal balance of \$1,050,779.30, together with interest thereon, plus all other sums due under the Pledge Agreement and other loan documents, subject to all prior liens, including the Mortgage Loan, and all expenses and fees of Agent and Lenders with respect thereto, the Terms and Conditions of Bidding and Sale (which are available upon request), and the auctioneer's fees.

The Security shall be sold AS IS and WHERE IS, and all warranties of quality, fitness, and merchantability are hereby excluded. Agent and Lenders make no representation or warranty as to (i) whether any person or party owns the Property or any other asset, (ii) the state or condition of title of any person or party to the Property or any other asset, (iii) the state or condition of title of any entity mentioned herein to its assets, (iv) the physical, financial, or environmental condition of the Property or other assets, (v) the existence, validity, or amount of any liens or claims senior or subordinate to the Loan, the Mortgage Loan or any mortgages on the Property, or (vi) the value of or income produced by any asset or entity. Agent and Lenders make no representation or warranty as to the amount and status of the Loan and liens which may encumber Debtor or any of its assets.

The Security will be sold only as a block to a single purchaser and will not be split up or broken down. The Agent may credit bid the lien of the Lenders and/or make cash bids at the Sale. The Sale may be continued from time to time, without further notice, other than as given at the time of the scheduled Sale, at the sole and absolute discretion of Agent. Prior to bidding, each interested bidder shall be required to present to the auctioneer at least \$100,000 (in immediately available funds by certified or cashier's check made payable to "Akerman, LLP", as Attorneys for Agent and Lenders). Cash will not be accepted. The successful bidder shall be required to immediately tender a deposit equal to 10% of the successful bid amount (the "Deposit"). The Deposit of the highest bidder shall be non-refundable if such bidder is not able to purchase the Security. The balance of the bid payable to Agent by cashier's or certified check, or by wire transfer at the closing, shall take place within thirty (30) calendar days of the Sale, but may be continued to a later date at the sole discretion of Agent. If the highest bidder defaults upon the balance, the Deposit is forfeited and the Security, at the option of Agent, may be sold to the next highest bidder. Agent, either directly or indirectly through nominees or assigns, reserves the right to bid at any such Sale without certified or cashier's check deposit, as required for the bidders, to credit bid any amount, and to take title to the Security, at a closing to take place immediately after the public auction, or such other date as Agent shall elect in its sole discretion, through one or more nominees or assigns.

The Security consisting of the "Pledged Company Interests" (as defined in the Pledge Agreement) are unregistered securities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Because of this, each prospective bidder seeking to be a "Qualified Bidder" (as determined by Secured Party in its sole and absolute discretion) shall be required, among other things, to execute and deliver to Secured Party, a "Bidding Certificate" certifying, among other things, that such bidder: (i) will acquire the Pledged Company Interests for investment purposes, solely for its own account and not with a view to distribution or resale; (ii) is an accredited investor within the meaning of the applicable securities laws; (iii) has sufficient knowledge and experience in financial and business matters so as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of investment and has sufficient financial means to afford the risk of investment in the Pledged Company Interests; and (iv) will not resell or otherwise hypothecate the Pledged Company Interests without either a valid registration under applicable federal or state laws, including without limitation the Securities Act of 1933 as amended, or an available exemption therefrom.

For additional information respecting the Security, how to become a Qualified Bidder, and to obtain a copy of the Terms and Conditions of Bidding and Sale, interested parties must contact Akerman, LLP, 520 Madison Avenue, 20th Floor, New York, New York 10022, Attn: Mark S. Lichtenstein (phone: 212-259-8707; facsimile: 212-259-8578 or e-mail: mark.lichtenstein@akerman.com), Attorneys for Agent and Lenders.

NO JUDGEMENT

Coach: Partying Giants had right intention of hanging out together

By RYAN DUNLEAVY

Joe Judge operates in black and white as a disciplinarian, but some of the Giants' biggest stars just created a gray area.

The video of Daniel Jones, Saquon Barkley and Sterling Shepard out with rookie teammates Friday night in Manhattan might not be a letter-of-the-law violation of the NFL's COVID-19 policy if they ate in a private dining room and gathered at a bar closed to the public, and the intention is an example of the team-bonding Judge values. But the action does not match up to Judge's message all season on staying responsible.

So, will the Giants sit Jones, Shepard and others Monday night against the Buccaneers, like when left tackle Andrew Thomas was benched for a quarter for being late to a team meeting?

"We're going to deal with things internally," Judge said. "This group of guys has been very responsible from the very beginning. They've tried to do the right thing the entire time [throughout the pandemic]. Based on the conversations and the information I've gathered from our players, I believe they were trying to do the right thing as teammates, with going out and having dinner together. We have to make sure we are conscious as an organization in anything we do."

One particularly bad look was Barkley on a bicycle — front wheel up — on the street despite being out for the season with a torn ACL. He is in Los Angeles awaiting the end of the World Series to undergo knee surgery this week.

"I'm not going to comment anything specifically on that," Judge said. "Actually, riding a stationary bike has been part of his rehab and prepping for surgery. Our thoughts and prayers are with him."

Judge has stressed the need for players to be accountable to the entire building with decisions made on free time. The Giants are one of the few teams that has not placed a player on the COVID-19 restricted list since early in training camp.

"They understand the consequences of anything you do right now in this COVID environment, as well as in the public eye," Judge said. "How they're looked at, and how we have to be careful. And we

have to make sure to make the right decisions."

Neither Jones nor Shepard were available to the media — both are scheduled to speak later in the week — but veteran cornerback James Bradberry was asked if he takes any issue with teammates out in public, theoretically increasing risk of exposure.

"I've heard about the video. Haven't watched it myself," Bradberry said. "I really don't want to put my energy and time toward that because I know what type of guys they are. I know how they go about their business every day — handle it like a pro, so I'm going to let the coaches and whoever upstairs handle that situation."

Raiders tight end Darren

Waller reportedly was fined \$30,000 for not wearing a mask at a charity event he hosted, and teammates photographed in attendance without masks were docked \$15,000.

The Giants had off Friday, Saturday and Sunday after losing Thursday to the Eagles. A league-issued suspension is not on the table.

The video was taken Friday and circulated on social media by user DJ Lugghead, who was the group's driver for the evening. He and at least one unidentified woman — who handed Jones a glass to drink from — were outsiders mingling with the team.

"I'm not going to go into the optics," Judge said. "Look, we've got to make the right decisions. What they tried to do as a team on a night off — kind of a simulated bye week — go out to dinner and hang as a team, that's something they were looking to do and stay tight with each other."



GROWING TOGETHER: Joe Judge said the Giants would "deal with things internally" after a video surfaced of Daniel Jones, Saquon Barkley and Sterling Shepard out with rookie teammates Friday night. But the coach also said he believed the group was "trying to do the right thing as teammates."

N.Y. Post: Charles Wenzelberg; Instagram/DJLugghead



WFAN's Benigno to retire Wed., paving way for Carton return

By ANDREW MARCHAND

The dream run from caller to drive-time host will come to an end for Joe Benigno on Wednesday when he officially announces his retirement, paving the way for Craig Carton's return to WFAN to team with Evan Roberts.

FAN previewed that there will be an announcement during the 5 p.m. hour of Wednesday afternoon's program. Sources told The Post that the news will be Benigno call-

ing it a career.

In recent years, Benigno, 67, has talked repeatedly about putting down his headphones and moving to Florida.

During his best performances, Benigno's passion, that began as a caller, "Joe from Saddle River," has always been his calling card. For years, on overnights, his opening rants on a Jets or Mets loss were classic.

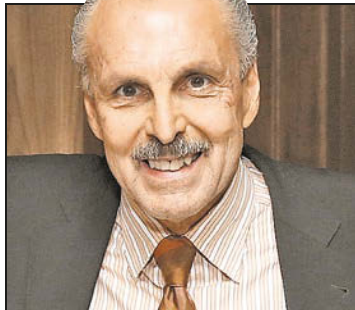
He and Roberts had a lot of success in middays, though, their

short run in afternoons was not a strong one in part due to the pandemic and because of the popularity of "The Michael Kay Show."

To combat that, WFAN is bringing back Carton to team with Roberts. Carton was last on the FAN three years ago. He served a year in a federal prison after misallocating loans to pay off gambling debts.

Carton is expected to join the station soon, as Benigno's exit will become official on Wednesday.

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JOE BENIGNO



CRAIG CARTON

Yanks trio set to play winter ball

By DAN MARTIN

Three Yankees who had three dreadful 2020 seasons — for very different reasons — could be looking to get back on track with the same team in the Dominican Winter League.

Miguel Andujar is set to report to Toros Del Este this week according to ESPN Deportes, while Gary Sanchez and Domingo German are also expected to play for the team in the Dominican Republic, according to other reports out of the Dominican.

All three are coming off seasons to forget, with Andujar shuttling between The Bronx and the Yankees’ alternate site, Sanchez playing himself out of the starting catcher spot in the postseason and German serving a suspension for violating MLB’s domestic violence protocols in 2019.

Their roles with the Yankees are in doubt going forward.

Andujar, 25, never adjusted to the part-time role he was relegated to when he lost his starting job at third base to Gio Urshela. He struggled at the plate and in the field, but hit well in his final six games of the regular season in mid-September.

Sanchez, who turns 28 in December, started just two games in the playoffs after he hit .147 and struck out 64 times in 178 plate appearances during the regular season. Kyle Higashioka supplanted Sanchez as the starting catcher in the postseason.

General manager Brian Cashman acknowledged Sanchez’s future was unclear earlier this month.

“It’s certainly a fair question, the way Gary Sanchez’s season transpired and the way it ended with [Kyle Higashioka] actually starting in the postseason as many games as he did,” Cashman said of the Yankees’ catching situation. “It’s one of the discussion points we’re gonna have to focus on.”

German would figure to be in line for a spot in the rotation in spring training, but team owner Hal Steinbrenner told “The Michael Kay Show” recently that he would “absolutely have to be comfortable with the fact that [German has] turned his life around” before the Yankees considered letting him pitch for them again.

World Series

(Best-of-7) x- if necessary;
At Arlington, Texas; All Games on
FOX and ESPN Radio (98.7 FM)
Tampa Bay Rays vs. LA Dodgers
Los Angeles wins series, 4-2.

Game 1: Dodgers 8, Rays 3

Game 2: Rays 6, Dodgers 4

Game 3: Dodgers 6, Rays 2

Game 4: Rays 8, Dodgers 7

Game 5: Dodgers 4, Rays 2

Game 6: Dodgers 3, Rays 1

World Series- Gm. 6 Dodgers 3, Rays 1

Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Choi 1b	2	0	0	0	1	1	.111
a-Diaz ph-1b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.333
Arozarena lf	4	1	2	1	0	1	.364
Meadows dh	3	0	1	0	0	1	.188
c-Renfroe ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	0	.125
Lowe 2b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.125
Margot rf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.316
Wendle 3f	3	0	0	0	0	2	.111
d-Brosseau ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.333
Adames ss	4	0	0	0	0	3	.143
Kiermaier cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.368
Zunino c	3	0	1	0	0	2	.063
1-Phillips pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	01.000
Perez c	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Totals	32	1	5	1	2	16	

Los Angeles	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Betts rf	4	2	2	1	0	2	.269
Seager ss	3	0	0	1	1	2	.400
Turner 3b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.320
Hernandez 2b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.200
Muncy 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.318
Smith dh	3	0	1	0	0	1	.167
Bellinger cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.136
Taylor 2b-1f	3	0	1	0	0	1	.217
Pollock lf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.167
b-Pederson ph	0	0	0	0	1	0	.400
Rios 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Barnes c	3	1	1	0	0	0	.154
Totals	29	3	5	2	2	11	

Tampa Bay	100	000	000	—	1	5	0
Los Angeles	000	002	01x	—	3	5	0

a-struck out for Choi in the 7th. b-intentionally walked for Pollock in the 7th. c-grounded out for Meadows in the 8th. d-struck out for Wendle in the 9th. 1-ran for Zunino in the 7th. **LOB:** Tampa Bay 6, Los Angeles 4. **2B:** Kiermaier (1), Betts (2), Smith (2). **HR:** Arozarena (3), off Gosnolin; Betts (2), off Fairbanks. **RBIs:** Arozarena (4), Seager (5), Betts (3). **Runners left in scoring position:** Tampa Bay 2 (Wendle, Arozarena); Los Angeles 2 (Betts, Barnes). **RISP:** Tampa Bay 0 for 4; Los Angeles 0 for 5. **Runners moved up:** Barnes. **GIDP:** Muncy. **DP:** Tampa Bay 1 (Lowe, Wendle, Diaz).

Tampa Bay	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Snell	5.1	2	1	1	0	9	73	2.70
Anderson, L, 1-1, BS, 0-2	0.1	1	1	1	0	0	10	9.00
Loup	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	6	7.71
Fairbanks	1.1	2	1	1	2	2	34	6.75
Yarbrough	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	2	3.86

Los Angeles	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Gonsolin	1.2	3	1	1	2	4	48	6.00
Floro	0.1	0	0	0	0	1	3	9.00
Wood	2.0	0	0	0	0	3	20	0.00
Baez	0.2	1	0	0	0	1	10	5.40
Gonzalez, W, 1-0 1.1	0	0	0	0	0	3	18	2.45
Graterol, H, 2-0 0.2	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	0.00
Urias, S, 1-1	2.1	0	0	0	0	4	27	2.57

Inherited runners-scored: Anderson 1-1, Loup 1-0, Yarbrough 1-0, Floro 2-0, Gonzalez 1-0, Urias 1-0. **IBB:** off Fairbanks (Pederson). **WP:** Anderson. **Umpires:** Home, Jerry Meals; First, Laz Diaz; Second, Todd Tichenor; Third, Bill Miller; Right, Marvin Hudson; Left, Chris Guccione. **T:** 3:28. **A:** 11,437 (40,300).

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Buffalo	5	2	0	.714	174	178
Miami	3	3	0	.500	160	113
New England	2	4	0	.333	115	143
Jets	0	7	0	.000	85	203
South						
Tennessee	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Tennessee	5	1	0	.833	188	153
Indianapolis	4	2	0	.666	157	115
Houston	1	6	0	.142	166	217
Jacksonville	1	6	0	.142	154	220
North						
Pittsburgh	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	6	0	0	1.000	183	118
Baltimore	5	1	0	.833	179	104
Cleveland	5	2	0	.714	200	221
Cincinnati	1	5	1	.214	163	194

West	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Kansas City	6	1	0	.857	218	143
Las Vegas	3	3	0	.500	171	197
Denver	2	4	0	.333	116	153
L.A. Chargers	2	4	0	.333	149	154

NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Philadelphia	2	4	1	.357	163	196
Dallas	2	5	0	.285	176	243
Washington	2	5	0	.285	133	165
Giants	1	6	0	.142	122	174
South						
Tampa Bay	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	5	2	0	.714	222	142
New Orleans	4	2	0	.666	180	174
Carolina	3	4	0	.428	162	168
Atlanta	1	6	0	.142	184	207

North	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Green Bay	5	1	0	.833	197	159
Chicago	5	2	0	.714	138	140
Detroit	3	3	0	.500	156	165
Minnesota	1	5	0	.166	155	192
West						
Seattle	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Seattle	5	1	0	.833	203	172
Arizona	5	2	0	.714	203	146
L.A. Rams	5	2	0	.714	176	124
San Francisco	4	3	0	.571	181	136

North	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Green Bay	5	1	0	.833	197	159
Chicago	5	2	0	.714	138	140
Detroit	3	3	0	.500	156	165
Minnesota	1	5	0	.166	155	192
West	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Seattle	5	1	0	.833	203	172
Arizona	5	2	0	.714	203	146
L.A. Rams	5	2	0	.714	176	124
San Francisco	4	3	0	.571	181	136

Tennis

ATP World Tour Vienna
At Wiener Stadthalle; Vienna; Purse: \$1,409,510; Surface: Hardcourt indoor; Tuesday (seedings in parentheses):
Men’s Singles - Round of 32
Grigor Dimitrov, Bulgaria, def. Karen Khachanov, Russia, 7-6 (6), 6-3.
Hubert Hurkacz, Poland, def. Attila Balazs, Hungary, 6-3, 7-5.
Daniel Evans, Britain, def. Aljaz Bedene, Slovenia, 6-3, 4-5, ret.
Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. Filip Krajinovic, Serbia, 7-6 (6), 6-3.
Lorenzo Sonego, Italy, def. Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, 6-4, 6-3.
Dominic Thiem (2), Austria, def. Vitaliy Sachko, Ukraine, 6-4, 7-5.

MLS

EAST	W	L	D	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	12	3	5	41	39	17
Toronto FC	12	3	5	41	30	22
Columbus	10	4	5	35	31	16
Orlando City	8	3	8	32	31	20
NYCFC	9	8	3	30	27	20
New England	7	5	8	29	22	19
Nashville SC	7	6	7	28	20	18
Red Bulls	7	8	5	26	24	25
Montreal	7	12	2	23	30	40
Chicago	5	8	6	21	26	30
Inter Miami CF	6	11	3	21	21	30
Atlanta	5	11	4	19	19	24
D.C. United	4	10	6	18	19	34
Cincinnati	4	12	4	16	11	31

WEST	W	L	D	Pts	GF	GA
Seattle FC	10	4	5	35	38	18
Sporting K.C.	10	6	3	33	35	25
Portland	9	5	5	32	39	31
Los Angeles FC	8	7	4	28	42	34
Minn. United	7	5	6	27	29	23
FC Dallas	6	5	7	25	22	20
Vancouver	8	13	0	24	24	43
San Jose	6	8	6	24	29	45
Real Salt Lake	5	7	7	22	24	29
Houston	4	7	9	21	28	33
Colorado	5	5	4	19	25	24
LA Galaxy	5	10	3	18	22	36

Note: 3 pts. for win, 1 for tie
Tuesday
Nashville 1, Montreal 0
Seattle FC 2, Vancouver 0

Wednesday
New England at **Red Bulls**, 7pm
NYCFC at Toronto FC, 7:30pm
Sporting K.C. at Cincinnati, 7:30pm
Atlanta at Orlando City, 7:30pm
Chicago at Philadelphia, 7:30pm
Columbus at D.C. United, 8pm
Colorado at Minnesota, 8pm
Miami at FC Dallas, 8:30pm
LA Galaxy at Portland, 10pm
Houston at Los Angeles FC, 10:30pm
Salt Lake at San Jose, 10:30pm

Saturday
Houston at FC Dallas, 3:30pm
Chicago at Nashville, 8:30pm
Sunday
Red Bulls at **NYCFC**, 7pm
Philadelphia at Columbus, 3:30pm
Cincinnati at Atlanta, 7pm
Orlando City at Montreal, 7:30pm
D.C. United at New England, 7:30pm
Minnesota at Sporting K.C., 7:30pm
Miami at Toronto FC, 7:30pm
Seattle FC at Colorado, 9pm
Vancouver at Portland, 10pm
Salt Lake at LA Galaxy, 10:30pm
Los Angeles FC at San Jose, 10:30pm
Wednesday, November 4
Columbus at Orlando City, 7:30pm
Chicago at Minnesota, 8pm
FC Dallas at Nashville, 8:30pm
Colorado at Portland, 10pm
Seattle FC at LA Galaxy, 11pm

Soccer

UEFA Champions League
Atalanta 2, Ajax Amsterdam 2
Atletico Madrid 3, FC Salzburg 2
Borussia Monchengladbach 2, Real Madrid 2
FC Porto 2, Olympiakos 0
Liverpool 2, FC Midtjylland 0
Manchester City 3, Marseille 0
Bayern Munich 2, Lokomotiv Moscow 1
Shakhtar Donetsk 0, Inter Milan 0
English League Championship
Reading 4, Blackburn Rovers 2
Brentford 1, Norwich City 1
Middlesbrough 2, Coventry City 0
Swansea City 2, Stoke City 0
Wycombe Wanderers 1, Watford 1
Barnsley 3, Queens Park Rangers 0

Vic Cangialosi At Churchill Downs

Post Time: 1:00 p.m.

FIRST-6 fur; \$29,500; c1m(\$16,000); 3up

PN	Horse,Wt.	Jockey	Last 3 Odds
2	Icatiro(L),120	DCohn	2-2-9 7-5
3	Cave Run(L),120	JGraham	5-5-4 5-2
1	LightoftheWrlld,120	G Saez	4-6-1 8-1
4	Bobby Baby(L),120	C Diaz	5-6-2 8-1
5	ThirstyBetrayl,120	MMena	5-11-5 10-1
6	Strolling(L),120	ASchz	5-6-3 3-1

SECOND-6 fur; \$28,500; mdn c1(\$30,0); 3up

PN	Horse,Wt.	Jockey	Last 3 Odds
6	AmericanHumrL,122	CHrnn	5-5-2 3-1
8	Sag Harbor(L),122	RSntnrJ	3-6-6 7-2
1	Hooprdrvstbtl,122	RBejr	x-x-x 12-1
2	Maajor Wager(L),122	DCohn	6-6-4 10-1
3	Autopilot(L),122	ASchz	6-7-3 5-1
4	Hawk Tail(L),122	DCarrll	x-x-x 10-1
5	BeaverCreek(L),122	TGaffin	5-x-x 6-1
7	ConquistadorShwL,122	JGraham	7-2-10 7-2

THIRD-6 fur; \$33,000; c1m(\$30,000); 3up

PN	Horse,Wt.	Jockey	Last 3 Odds
4	All EyesWest(L),118	MMrrll	4-1-2 2-1
3	HiPrince(L),118	TGaffin	6-1-12 5-2
1	BlueCheerio(L),120	DCarrll	8-9-7 7-2
2	BluerCherio(L),118	CLanerI	6-4-1 8-1
5	SeminoleWarrL,120	DCnnt	2-1-3 7-2
6	Suspect(L),120	JGrahm	7-1-2 10-1

FOURTH-1 mile; \$19,500; c1m(\$8,000); 3up

PN	Horse,Wt.	Jockey	Last 3 Odds
3	Paddy O'Dini(L),121	DCohn	6-4-1 6-5
4	HestheSoprwnL,121	MMrrll	1-4-1 5-2
1	RedBlueandTrL,121	J Court	5-6-8 20-1
2	MidnightSwap(L),121	CLanerI	9-1-11 6-1
5	Stay Home(L),121	DCnnt	6-6-4 5-1
6	Water Patrol(L),121	CHrnn	6-4-7 15-1
7	MarkMyWay(L),121	CBorel	4-6-3 8-1

FIFTH-7 fur; \$22,000; mdn c1(\$15,0); 2Yof

PN	Horse,Wt.	Jockey	Last 3 Odds
6	Magic Solution ,119	RSntnrJ	9-

The POST Line



NFL Week 8		
Thursday		
Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
PANTHERS	2.5 (48.5)	Falcons
Sunday		
CHIEFS	19.5 (48.5)	Jets
Colts	2.5 (50.5)	LIONS
PACKERS	6.5 (54.5)	Vikings
BILLS	3.5 (42.5)	Patriots
Titans	6 (54.5)	BENGALS
BROWNS	3 (53.5)	Raiders
Rams	4.5 (46)	DOLPHINS
RAVENS	3.5 (45.5)	Steelers
Chargers	3 (44.5)	BRONCOS
SEAHAWKS	3.5 (53.5)	49ers
Saints	4 (44)	BEARS
EAGLES	3.5 (43.5)	Cowboys
Monday		
Buccaneers	10.5 (45.5)	GIANTS
Home team in CAPS		

College Football		
Thursday		
Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
GEORGIA SOUTHERN	5.5 (51.5)	South Alabama
Colorado State	1.5 (58.5)	FRESNO STATE
Friday		
SO. ILLINOIS	10.5 (54.5)	SE Missouri State
Minnesota	20.5 (61.5)	MARYLAND
TULSA	17.5 (61.5)	East Carolina
Hawaii	1.5 (60.5)	WYOMING
Saturday		
MICHIGAN	24.5 (53.5)	Michigan State
Wake Forest	10.5 (58.5)	SYRACUSE
FLORIDA ATLANTIC	4.5 (47.5)	Utsa
WEST VIRGINIA	3.5 (46.5)	Kansas State
CLEMSON	31.5 (60.5)	Boston College
Coastal Carolina	2.5 (61.5)	GEORGIA STATE
CINCINNATI	6.5 (55.5)	Memphis
Purdue	7 (58.5)	ILLINOIS
Iowa State	28.5 (51.5)	KANSAS
Georgia	14.5 (42.5)	KENTUCKY
Central Florida	3 (81.5)	HOUSTON
SOUTHERN MISS	1.5 (58.5)	Rice
ARKANSAS STATE	2.5 (72.5)	Troy

Notre Dame	19.5 (56.5)	GEORGIA TECH
Indiana	12 (53)	RUTGERS
IOWA	2.5 (47.5)	North-western
Tcu	2.5 (48.5)	BAYLOR
Lsu	3 (64.5)	AUBURN
Uab	11.5 (46.5)	LOUISIANA TECH
Virginia Tech	3.5 (65.5)	LOUISVILLE
OKLAHOMA STATE	3.5 (58.5)	Texas
Ole Miss	16.5 (63.5)	VANDER-BILT
App. State	31.5 (54.5)	UL MONROE
Boise State	15 (50.5)	AIR FORCE
DUKE	9.5 (55.5)	Charlotte
ALABAMA	31.5 (63.5)	Mississippi State
Ohio State	12.5 (62.5)	PENN STATE
SMU	13.5 (59.5)	Navy
TEXAS A& M	12.5 (55.5)	Arkansas
FLORIDA	13.5 (61.5)	Missouri
North Carolina	6.5 (61.5)	VIRGINIA
Oklahoma	14.5 (68.5)	TEXAS TECH
Ul Lafayette	16.5 (55.5)	TEXAS STATE
San Diego State	7.5 (43.5)	UTAH STATE
BYU	28.5 (52.5)	Western Kentucky
Nevada	14 (59.5)	UNLV

ODDS & ENDS

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE	
(Wednesday's matches)	
Chelsea at FC Krasnodar	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Chelsea	-239
Draw	+375
FC Krasnodar	+625
Paris Saint-Germain at Istanbul Basaksehir	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Paris Saint-Germain	-455
Draw	+550
Istanbul Basaksehir	+1150
Stade Rennais at FC Sevilla	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Stade Rennais	+550
Draw	+300
FC Sevilla	-182
Zenit St. Petersburg at Borussia Dortmund	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Zenit St. Petersburg	+675
Draw	+425
Borussia Dortmund	-278

Lazio Rome at Club Brugge	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Lazio Rome	+333
Draw	+280
Club Brugge	-125
FC Dynamo Kyiv at Ferencvarosi Torna	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
FC Dynamo Kyiv	+135
Draw	+220
Ferencvarosi Torna	+220

FC Barcelona at Juventus	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
FC Barcelona	+150
Draw	+240
Juventus	+180

RB Leipzig at Manchester United	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
RB Leipzig	+220
Draw	+240
Manchester United	+125

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER	
New England at Red Bulls (Wed.)	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
New England Revolution	+210
Draw	+275
Red Bulls	+115

NYCFC at Toronto FC (Wed.)	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
NYCFC	+170
Draw	+250
Toronto FC	+155

VSIN TOP PLAY

Grab 5/1 odds on Cards to cop NFC West crown

By BRUCE MARSHALL

Last week, while I was co-hosting VSIN's "Follow The Money" program with Paulie Howard, the Sunday night Seahawks-Cardinals game was a main topic of conversation with several guests. Most (including myself) were not "buying" in on the Big Red, citing previous wins over the troubled Jets and Cowboys by a combined 68-20 scoreline as being scant evidence for an endorsement.

Sometimes, however, handicappers out-think themselves; there should rarely be a downgrade for a win.

After all, what is a good team supposed to do against a bad team? The answer is to take care of business, exactly what Arizona did vs. New York and Dallas.

Then the Cardinals promptly reminded any remaining doubters that they need to be taken seriously in the NFC West when they rallied to a thrilling overtime win while dealing Seattle its first loss in the process.

It was important in the playoff race, too, as it improved the Big Red to 2-0 vs. division foes (the 49ers were previously conquered on opening day), giving Kliff Kingsbury's

side a leg up on tiebreakers, at least vs. the Seahawks and Niners.

Still offered at 5/1 at BetMGM to win the division, Arizona is suddenly looking like awfully good value, especially as Kyler Murray is emerging into the sort of force that Lamar Jackson was for the Ravens a year ago, terrorizing opposing defenses with his arm and legs after accounting for 427 total yards and four touchdowns vs. Pete Carroll's defense.

Meanwhile, Vance Joseph's Arizona stop unit is emerging as a big-play platoon that has made adjustments since the injury to edge-rusher deluxe

Chandler Jones.

The upcoming slate does not look overly daunting, with consecutive home games after this weekend's well-placed bye, and a couple of more games remaining vs. foes from the weak NFC East. Recently struggling Buffalo and New England, both on deck in later November, do not look as menacing as they did earlier in the season, either.

Sunday night's win over the Seahawks suggests the Big Red could be for real, and it might be a good idea to take advantage before the oddsmakers and wagering public come to the same conclusion.

THE PLAY: Cardinals to win the NFC West, 5/1 at BetMGM.

Bruce Marshall writes for VSIN.com, The Sports Betting Network.



Kyler Murray

STITCHES

Dodgers are King; Stitches is Crowned

While New Yorkers know Mayor de Blasio's place in history as #worstmayorever is forever, Bill is not so sure. So he may choose to block Steve Cohen's purchase of the Mets, to seal the deal. A Metsfanslivesmatter protest is in the works. ... It's Back! The KFC Firelog, scented with 11 herbs and spices, is returning for the holiday season. Also available is the heart-warming NewYorkLog, designed for those who have been quarantining all year. Among the scents emanating through your home include the Hudson River, subway car and the summer dumpster which hasn't been emptied due to cost-cutting measures.

The best team in baseball, the Los Angeles Dodgers, are World Series

champions. They beat the Tampa Bay Rays 3-1, taking the series in six games. Rays took an early lead when Randy Arozarena hit a homer off Tony Gonsolin in the opening frame. And with Blake Snell tossing a one-hitter through five innings we saw Walker Buehler in the dugout planning his strategy for Game 7. But LA's superior lineup got to Snell for a run in the sixth, took a lead and went on to claim their first title since 1988.

-\$

We had the Dodgers to win the series. Lost our Game 6 wager on the Rays. Split on the last night of the season leaves us at -798 hershisers.

stitches@nypost.com

Home Team Lineups HOME AWAY							
	TODAY Oct. 28	THU Oct. 29	FRI Oct. 30	SAT Oct. 31	SUN Nov. 1	MON Nov. 2	TUE Nov. 3
	New England 7:00 MSG	NO GAME	NO GAME	NO GAME	NYCFC 7:00 MSG	NO GAME	NO GAME
	Toronto FC 7:30 YES	NO GAME	NO GAME	NO GAME	NYRB 7:00 YES	NO GAME	NO GAME
Monday				Sunday			
	Tampa Bay 8:15 TV - PIX11, ESPN Radio- WFAN 660 AM/ 101.9 FM				Kansas City 1:00 TV - CBS Radio- ESPN 98.7 FM		

Today's Sports on the Air			
Golf	3 p.m.	East Lake Cup: Match Play Championship	GOLF
	5:30 a.m. (Thurs.)	Euro Tour: Cyprus Open, 1st Round	GOLF
Tennis	8 a.m.	ATP Vienna & ATP Kazakhstan, Early Rounds	TENNIS
Auto Racing	3 p.m.	NASCAR Cup Series: Autotrader EchoPark Automotive 500	NBCSN
Soccer	1:55 p.m.	UEFA Champions League: Paris Saint-Germain at Basaksehir	UniMas
	4 p.m.	UEFA Champions League: Barcelona at Juventus	UniMas
	7 p.m.	New England Revolution at Red Bulls	MSG
	7:30 p.m.	NYCFC vs. Toronto FC (in East Hartford, CT)	YES
	7:30 p.m.	Atlanta United at Orlando City SC	FS1
	8:30 p.m.	Copa do Brazil: Flamengo at Paranaense	FS2
Horse Racing	10 p.m.	LA Galaxy at Portland Timbers	ESPN
	12:30 p.m.	Belmont Park Live	MSG, MSG+

SPORTS SHORTS

NFL: Reid says no to Washington

Free agent safety **Eric Reid** told the Associated Press he declined an offer to join Washington's practice squad.

Washington (2-5) lost safety **Landon Collins** to a season-ending Achilles tendon injury in a win over Dallas on Sunday. Rookie **Kamren Curl**, a seventh-round pick, will replace him for now. The 28-year-old Reid played two seasons for Washington coach **Ron Rivera** in Carolina.

● The Buccaneers officially signed wide receiver **Antonio Brown** and head coach **Bruce Arians** said Brown would work out as a member of the team for the first time on Wednesday.

● The Panthers released veteran cornerback **Eli Apple**, who signed a one-year deal with the Panthers in May but has been bothered by various injuries and played just 28 defensive snaps in two games.

● Cowboys owner **Jerry Jones** backed head coach **Mike McCarthy** to turn around the team's fortunes and ruled out a coaching change on an interview with Dallas's 105.3 The Fan radio, following the Cowboys' humiliating 25-3 loss to Washington on Sunday.

● The Lions acquired veteran defensive end **Everson Griffen** from the Cowboys for a conditional draft pick. The Cowboys said the selection from Detroit could be as high as a fifth-round pick in 2021.

● **Christian McCaffrey** has been designated for return from the team's injured reserve list, increasing the likelihood he will play Thursday night against the Falcons.

● Former Cowboys receiver **Dez Bryant** has moved one step closer to return to the NFL as the 31-year-old signed with the Ravens and assigned to the practice squad.

NCAA: Florida reports new cases

Tenth-ranked Florida's football program is reporting six new positive tests for the coronavirus in the past week, bringing the team's total for the month to 37.

The Gators, who had a two-week hiatus because of a coronavirus outbreak, are scheduled to host Missouri on Saturday, and coach **Dan Mullen** says they expect to have enough players to play.

● Two Conference USA games scheduled for the weekend have been postponed because of COVID-19 issues.

No. 19 Marshall was scheduled to play Friday night, but FIU had to call off the game because of a lack of available scholarship players.

North Texas at UTEP on Saturday was called off because a surge in COVID-19 cases in El Paso, Texas has led to a stay-at-home order in the city.

SOCCER: NYCFC clinches playoff spot

NYCFC clinched a MLS playoff berth after Nashville SC defeated designated home team Montreal Impact, 1-0, Tuesday night at Red Bull Arena in Harrison, N.J.

AUTO RACING: NASCAR PPD again

NASCAR will make a fourth attempt to complete its playoff race at Texas Motor Speedway on Wednesday at 3 p.m. after persistent mist and cold temperatures Tuesday continued the long delay.

GOLF

Favorites to win Bermuda Championship Thursday-Sunday Southampton, Bermuda

PLAYER	ODDS
Will Zalatoris	11/1
Brendon Todd	14/1
Harold Varner III	22/1
Denny McCarthy	25/1
Charley Hoffman	28/1
Doc Redman	28/1
Aaron Wise	33/1
Cameron Tringale	33/1
Emiliano Grillo	33/1
Kristoffer Ventura	33/1
Henrik Norlander	40/1
Henrik Stenson	40/1
Justin Suh	40/1
Luke List	40/1
Peter Malnati	40/1
Rasmus Hojgaard	40/1
Pat Perez	45/1
Adam Schenk	50/1
Danny Willett	50/1
Maverick McNealy	50/1
Russell Knox	50/1
Scott Piercy	50/1
Scott Stallings	50/1
Wesley Bryan	50/1
Stewart Cink	55/1
Padraig Harrington	55/1
Patrick Rodgers	55/1
Sepp Straka	55/1
Tom Lewis	55/1
Tyler McCumber	55/1



GOOD WITH HIS STICK: Swedes Henrik Norlander (above) and Henrik Stenson are among Wes Reynolds longer shots who are worth a wager at this weekend's PGA Bermuda Championship.

By WES REYNOLDS

Most of the top players are going to skip the next two PGA events prior to the Masters. In fact, defending champion Brendon Todd is the only player in this week's Bermuda Championship field who played last weekend at the Zozo Championship.

Todd is 14/1 at BetMGM to defend his Bermuda title, second choice to Will Zalatoris (11/1). Zalatoris was the favorite a few weeks ago in the Dominican Republic and finished T-8. Zalatoris is favored to win a PGA Tour event for the second time despite not being a member of said tour. He won earlier this summer on the Korn Ferry Tour and finished in the top 10 in eight of 11 events on the KFT since the restart this summer. Add a T-6 finish in his first major at the U.S. Open. Zalatoris has missed only one cut in 20 total events in 2020 and only needs a T-69 finish to lock up his Special Temporary Membership on the PGA Tour.

Harold Varner III is at 22/1, with Denny McCarthy at 25/1, Charley Hoffman and Doc Redman at 28/1 and Emiliano Grillo and Kristoffer Ventura at 33/1.

Here are some players with longer odds who are worth a wager at the Port Royal Golf Course:

Henrik Stenson (40/1): Has made only nine starts in 2020, but finds himself outside of the OWGR Top 50 for the first time in eight years. He is always one of the world's best in terms of Driving Accuracy and Greens In Regulation and this track should be right up his alley. Stenson did beat many of the world's best last December at the Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas, so he still has some winning golf left in him.

Henrik Norlander (40/1): Was

fourth at the Sanderson Farms Championship four weeks ago where he rated third in Putting Average. He is also one of the few players in this field who got a look at this course last year. While he only finished T-28, Norlander led last year's field in Driving Accuracy and was fifth for Greens In Regulation. He seems to go along just fine on shorter, coastal courses including a fifth at the Sony Open (Waialae) and a ninth at the RSM Classic (Sea Island) last season.

Peter Malnati (40/1): This is solely a recent form play. Malnati finished second at the Sanderson Farms Championship four weeks ago, but that could have been dismissed as an outlier considering he's a former champion at the event and was just a "horse for course." However, he followed it up with a T-5 at the Shriners in Las Vegas. He is a shorter hitter but this track will not penalize his lack of length. If he just hits fairways and greens, he should do well considering he ranks No. 1 on the PGA Tour in Strokes Gained: Putting on the young 2020-21 season.

Brian Stuard (80/1): Ranks second in this week's field for Driving Accuracy and placed third several weeks ago at the Safeway Open. Stuard is another player who has taken a liking to the shorter, coastal courses.

Others to consider: **Brice Garnett (100/1)** is a shorter hitter who hits a lot of greens, and in a speculative and wide-open event like this one, he's the type of player who will have a lot of birdie opportunities. **Josh Teater (100/1)** finished a respectable T-11 here in Bermuda last year. And **D.J. Trahan (125/1)** has made three straight cuts starting the 2020-21 PGA Tour season. His tee-to-green game is usually solid.

Wes Reynolds handicaps golf for VSIN.com, The Sports Betting Network.

TRANSCENDENTAL MEDIATION

Numbers can fluctuate fast as Rangers face first arb hearing since 2009



Larry Brooks

REGARDING the Rangers, who are just over a week away from scheduled arbitration hearings with Brendan Lemieux and Ryan Strome:

1. Little in the negotiating dynamic with either forward has changed since the pair was qualified. This means it is more likely than not that the team will have its first hearing since 2009, when the Blueshirts walked away from Nikolay Zherdev's slightly crazy award.

Zherdev, acquired from Columbus over the summer of 2008 in exchange for Fedor Tyutin, had completed his one and only season as a Ranger with 23 goals, second by one to club leader Markus Naslund, and 58 points, tied with Scott Gomez for the team lead. That was the season that started with Tom Renney as coach and finished with John Tortorella behind the bench.

The Blueshirts, who had qualified the winger, then 24 years old, with a required \$3.25 million, entered an arbitration bid of \$3M. Zherdev, whose work ethic came and went as if by whim, asked for \$4.75M. Elliott Shiftman, the arbiter, essentially split the difference (as arbiters are wont to do) and came in with an award of \$3.9M. General manager Glen Sather punted. Zherdev became a footnote referenced each time a Ranger drew near to an arbitration hearing.

2. Walkaways in 2020 can only be



SHOW OF ENFORCE: Brendan Lemieux mixes it up with the Senators' Mark Borowiecki last season, when he fought hard, though his brawling doesn't translate to arbitration-friendly numbers. Getty Images

exercised on players awarded in excess of \$4,538,958, so that won't be a concern for Lemieux, who is coming off a one-year contract worth \$925,000 after recording 18 points (6-12) in 59 games.

The 24-year-old winger is one of the select Rangers to play with a hardscrabble mentality, but his statistics (beyond the esoteric figure of penalties drawn/taken) don't necessarily translate well to arbitration, which is a color-by-numbers exercise.

If Lemieux hadn't filed, he would have been at the team's mercy. So he essentially had no choice. The problem is, the Rangers are all but certain to request a two-year award for No. 48, which will limit his earn-

ing power for 2021-22.

It might be in Lemieux's best interest to negotiate a one-year deal with GM Jeff Gorton ahead of the hearing, in order to build his numbers for the next negotiation. But though Mats Zuccarello actually signed three consecutive one-year deals out of entry-level, playing on one-year contracts can become tiresome and burdensome.

I would envision Lemieux receiving somewhere in the neighborhood of \$1.75M to \$2M on a two-year arbitration award, off a career in which he has 36 points (19-17) in 131 contests. Jordan Greenway, Minnesota's 23-year-old winger who played for David Quinn at Boston University and about whom the

Blueshirts have inquired more than once, recently signed a two-year deal with the Wild at \$2.1M per season with a career total of 53 points (20-33) in 154 games.

Let's say Lemieux, whose hearing is set for Nov. 6, comes in at around \$2M. That would give the Rangers between \$6.5M and \$7.5M of cap space for Strome, whose hearing is scheduled for a day earlier, depending upon the final roster.

3. Strome, coming off a career season at age 26 in which he recorded 59 points (18-41) in easing Artemi Panarin's transition to Broadway, is going to have an extremely strong case in arbitration. Start at somewhere around \$4.6M and go from there. It's the "from

there" that is somewhat concerning to the Blueshirts, who do not envision No. 16 as the long-term answer in the second-line center's slot. Indeed, there is every chance they will give Filip Chytil first crack at that assignment this season. In that case, Strome would be an insurance policy; an expensive one, too.

Depending upon his comparables, Strome could nudge into the \$5.2M to \$5.5M range. Since Dec. 31, 2018, Strome has 86 points (34-52) in 115 games. Over that same stretch, Strome is 32nd among NHL centers in scoring and 44th in five-on-five points by pivots, per Naturalstat-trick.com. He is going to get paid.

And yes, the Rangers would be able to walk away from Strome, but for this year only, he would have the right to return to the team on its arbitration bid. So if the Blueshirts come in, say, at \$4.4M, Strome comes in at \$4.4M, and the arbitrator grants an award of \$5.1M, the team could walk away and the player could walk back for the \$4.4M.

If indeed the difference between the Rangers' bid and the award is that substantial, the walkaway/walkback is the likely scenario. Of course, if Strome could find a team willing to beat the Blueshirts' offer within four days after being notified of the walkaway, he could sign with that club as a free agent.

4. I am forever taken by surprise that management has never made it a priority to add a Finnish player to the roster to aid in Kaapo Kakko's transition to North America, and yes, I am aware that Tarmo Reunanen could challenge for a spot on left defense.

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Isles re-up Ho-Sang for what may be final chance

By MOLLIE WALKER

The Islanders and Josh Ho-Sang avoided arbitration Tuesday morning, settling on a one-year, two-way deal worth \$700,000 and \$225,000 in what appears to be his last chance with the organization.

Additionally, forward A.J. Greer agreed to a one-year, two-way contract for \$700,000 and \$100,000 with \$125,000 guaranteed, per his

agent Peter Fish. The team also announced that defensemen Mitch Vande Sompel and Parker Wether- spoon signed two-year deals.

Ho-Sang, the Islanders' 28th-overall selection in 2014, was tendered a qualifying offer by the team this month, but filed for arbitration, to general manager Lou Lamoriello's surprise.

It has been just over a year since Ho-Sang for-

mally requested a trade through his former agent Ian Pulver, which prompted Lamoriello to tell the promising right winger not to report to the team's AHL affiliate in Bridgeport while he explored trade options. It seemed like a tipping point in a contentious relationship that was rocky from the start when Ho-Sang overslept on the first day of training camp in 2015.

Ho-Sang's current agent, Patrick Bedell, released an official statement to The Post on behalf of his client Tuesday.

"Josh is ready to give everything he has to earn a spot in the National Hockey League. This contract provides him with some financial security at the AHL level, but he intends to force his way into an NHL line-up," the statement read. "We believe this con-

tract best allows for that as well. There was interest from teams overseas, but again, at the end of the day, Josh's focus is being a contributor for an NHL team.

"Conversations with the Islanders in furtherance of this deal were strong, and no matter how the upcoming season shakes out, we are focused on achieving our goals. Josh would like to thank the Islanders for believing in him."

Considering the cap crunch because of the coronavirus pandemic, working things out with Ho-Sang is an ideal situation. He has shown flashes of brilliance throughout his tenure on Long Island and could contribute immediately for a bargain price.

Should Ho-Sang make the opening-night roster, he'll have an opportunity to raise his trade value as well.

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Nash plan: Dish out 'D' in Brooklyn

By BRIAN LEWIS

Nets coach Steve Nash is one of the best offensive minds to ever play in the NBA. But ask him about what kind of attack his team will run, and he'll flip the script to defense.

"It's frankly been all on defense. We've spent all our time over the last few weeks building that," Nash said during Tuesday's town hall with ticket

holders that aired on YES Network. "Defense is our No. 1 priority. Protecting the

paint and guarding the basket is going to be the bedrock of our defense. Without sharing all the principles we're building and all the things we're designing right now, I can assure you we realize to win a championship we need to be a very strong defensive team."

Defense was the lone flaw that kept the high-scoring Suns and Mavericks, with which the Hall of Fame guard played, from winning titles. Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving will both be in the lineup, so the Nets could be similarly explosive, but must avoid the same Achilles' heel.

The Nets finished last season ranked 10th in the NBA in defensive efficiency, but the late-season stages tell a different tale. The Nets were 18th of 22 teams during the seeding games in the bubble at Disney World, and were dead last in the playoffs at a porous 122.9.

Right now it's unclear who'll be coaching that defense, and who'll be anchoring it. Perhaps coincidentally, Jarrett Allen's name has popped up in trade rumors, though Nash has gushingly praised the Nets center.

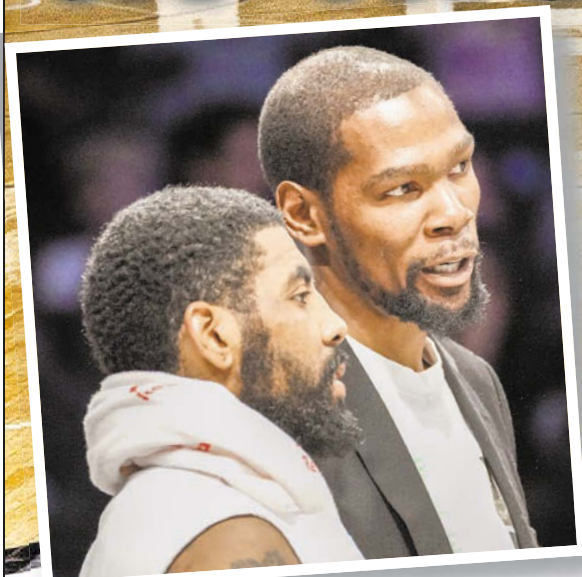
"He was more dynamic at the defensive end, expanding his game [in the bubble], getting out and playing farther out on the floor, covering guards, moving his feet for stretches that we hadn't seen in the past," Nash said. "And then his rim protection I think has been his cornerstone."

Nash touched on his staff, referring to Durant confidant Adam Harrington in the present tense and confirming the hiring of former Phoenix teammate Amar'e Stoudemire. But the ex-Knick was never a great defender and despite Jacque Vaughn yeoman's work as interim coach, his best results were with the offense and chemistry.

Even if Nash lands former mentor Mike D'Antoni as an assistant, no defensive coordinator is readily apparent.

➤ A source familiar with league financials told The Post that players will get half of total basketball-related income for last season, which generally works out to about a 15 percent pay cut.

Champing at the bit



By BRIAN LEWIS

Steve Nash isn't managing expectations, he's leaning into them. The Hall of Fame guard has never coached a single game and Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving haven't played a second together for the Nets, but Nash said his team is aiming no lower than an NBA title.

"We're playing for a championship," Nash said during Tuesday's virtual town hall with season-ticket holders that aired on YES Network.

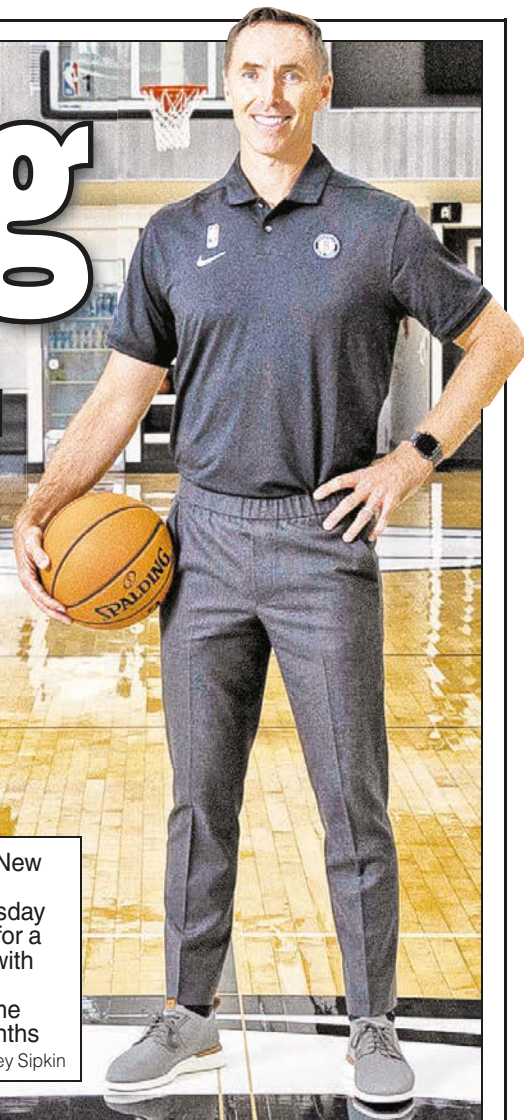
"I don't want to say that anything less than a championship isn't a success, because you never know what happens in life. You never know the way the ball bounces. Fortune is a big part of winning an NBA championship. But we're playing for a championship, and we're going to build accordingly."

Having Durant and Irving on the roster puts the Nets in the odd position of having a target on their backs without yet having championship rings on their fingers.

Durant didn't play last season as he rehabbed a ruptured Achilles tendon. Irving made just 20 appearances before season-ending income for last season, which generally works out to about a 15 percent pay cut.

WORKING TOGETHER: New Nets coach Steve Nash told season-ticket holders on Tuesday that his team will be "playing for a championship," and why not with Kyrie Irving and Kevin Durant (inset) together for the first time since joining Brooklyn 15 months ago.

Getty Images; Corey Sipkin



Rookie coach says Nets' goal is nothing less than NBA title

Las Vegas oddsmakers to project the Nets as Eastern Conference finalists.

Apparently the Nets' goals are even loftier.

"We're going to frame everything we do in the lens of, 'Is this a championship characteristic, or is this worth championship-quality?'" Nash said.

"Are we growing? Are we striving? Are we pressure-tested? Are we continually asking of each other and ourselves that individual collective growth every day, and creating an environment that's fun but challenging and collaborative? If those tenets are being met, there's a lot of success and reward in that. But we are playing for a championship."

To earn that title, Nash seems convinced the Nets' chemistry will be every bit as important as their talent, if not more so. That not only means a winning attitude, but also being close as a group.

"It'd be ideal if we're a team that enjoys each other, bonds, spends time together away from the floor, has an understanding

and a caring for one another. You have to care at least. Even if you're not best friends you have to care and have a common goal. So that's important," Nash said. "That, in my experience, also made it more successful and more fun, so that [will] be something we seek to foster."

Whether Nash was echoing Durant and Irving, or the Nets' star duo was taking their cue from their new coach, all three have made similar comments.

"I want somebody that's gonna understand that I'm a human being first," Irving said recently on "The ETCs with Kevin Durant" podcast. "When you get to know [Nash] as a person, you understand why he can coexist with us."

Durant was one of the speakers Tuesday at an online conference called the "Young CEO Experience." As part of a partnership between his own "The Boardroom" and Overtime, a media platform that focuses on high school athletes, Durant talked about the importance of quality

leadership on any team. And he reiterated that, for the Nets, that starts with Nash.

"If our principles are not aligned, then it could cause a disconnect between the team and the coach. So as long as everybody's on the same page and we've got one singular goal that we want to achieve and we all know our own roles and how we can help contribute to that goal. So it starts from the top," said Durant, who admitted that's harder with stars than with role players.

"I think it's more challenging to get the most talented people in one room and get them to focus on one goal. ... It's easier to have the underdogs, to lead them in the right direction: They're looking for a leader. But guys that have their own personalities, their own opinions on things, their own routines, it's harder for you to get them all on one page."

It may be harder, but it will be necessary if Nash and company are to reach the lofty goal they've already set for themselves.

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BLAST FROM THE

Judge ready to meet old NE pal Brady on new turf



WE MEET AGAIN: Joe Judge (right), who won three Super Bowl rings during eight seasons as an assistant with Tom Brady and the Patriots, will reunite with Brady at MetLife Stadium on Monday night, as his Giants try to upset Brady again.

N.Y. Post: Charles Wenzelberg;
Getty Images

NO INTRODUCTIONS are needed between Joe Judge, young Giants head coach, and Tom Brady, old Buccaneers quarterback.

They worked together for eight years in New England. Without Brady doing his thing, it is highly unlikely Judge would be in the position he is, entrusted with turning around what continues to be a losing operation.

Brady's greatness elevated so many around him, including Judge. Heck, including Bill Belichick. So, the encounter on the field prior to Monday night's game at MetLife Stadium will be brief, but no doubt poignant and meaningful, Judge sharing a few personal words or reminiscence or thanks with Brady before the old quarterback takes aim at shredding the team guided by the young head coach.

In one way, though, this is a new relationship. For



the first time in Judge's time in the NFL, he does not get to bask in the glow of Brady's brilliance. Judge instead must attempt to accomplish what so many others usually fail to deliver: finding a way to beat Brady.

"It's gonna be a little bit different being on an opposite sideline from him this time," Judge said Tuesday, "but it's a great challenge and we look forward to seeing him on the field."

Seeing Brady on the field was always a blessing for Judge, until now. Judge joined the Patriots in 2012, the season after Tom Coughlin, Eli Manning and that ravenous defensive front beat Brady in Super Bowl XLVI, the second time in four years the upstart Giants had upset Brady and the mighty Pats. Judge was hired as a special teams assistant and the team he joined had not won a Super Bowl in nine years — an eternity for the Belichick-Brady partnership.

In 2015, Judge was promoted to special teams coordinator and of all the players he was assigned to work with on kick and punt teams, Brady's name was never on the list. Still, so many hours spent under the same roof, wrapped up in all that winning, created a bond. In 2019, Belichick expanded Judge's responsibilities, adding wide receivers coach to his résumé, and that brought Judge even closer to the legendary quarterback.

During the summer of 2019, Judge pored over tape of his receivers in their one-on-one individual drills with defensive backs. Judge led these meetings, of course, but every so often Brady was invited in to give his expert analysis of what the receivers were doing and how they could get better doing it.

This was important information for the receivers and provided priceless lessons for Judge.

"To me, that made

you a much better coach, by listening how the quarterback sees it and what he expects on these routes," Judge said. "To me, there's fine points in coaching, but ultimately it matters how the players see it on the field. To be able to hear it through the vision that Tom had, that was really an education in itself right there."

Judge knows so much about Brady, and Patrick Graham, the Giants defensive coordinator, does as well after seven years as a Patriots defensive assistant. Do not expect this to give the Giants even an iota of an advantage.

This is not a fair fight. The Giants are 1-6 and facing another prime-time game, 11 nights after their beyond-disheartening 22-21 loss to the Eagles. The Bucs (5-2) are flying, coming off routs of the Packers and Raiders and averaging an NFL-high 31.7 points a game. Funny how prolific offenses seem to sprout up around Brady.

At 43, Brady is older than Judge, 38. One is defying logic in his 21st season, gunning for his first Super Bowl victory with Tampa Bay after winning six (and losing three) for the Patriots. A slow start with his new team has given way to typically torrid Brady numbers (18 touchdown passes, only four interceptions).

"This guy is clearly one of the best to ever play the game," Judge said. "He's playing at a very high level."

What else is new?

"I've got a tremendous amount of respect for him," Judge said. "He was a ton of fun to be around. You really got to see one of the great competitors on a daily basis of not only how he performed, but more importantly how he prepared. I think that's some of the things that get overlooked. It's not accidental this guy's playing this late in his timeline of being 40-plus years old and still playing at this high level."

"This guy, he set the tone of an entire organization. I'm very grateful for my time to be around him."

Let's see how grateful Judge is after coaching in his first NFL game against him.

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PATS



By RYAN DUNLEAVY

How many current Giants will be on the roster the next time they are in a playoff game?

If the answer is one (and just Sterling Shepard remains from their last playoff game, in 2016), then the Giants are just cycling through spare parts. If it's dozens, then the Giants are laying building blocks and secondary developmental goals are being accomplished despite the losing.

"I believe we're fully on track," coach Joe Judge said. "There is always a big-picture perspective you've got to keep in mind. When I look down the road and I have my vision for what this team needs to be, how we need to work to be there, how we have to play for each other collectively and the foundation we have to lay, there are a lot of things that are getting accomplished."

The Giants (1-6) are 1-4 in games decided in the final minute, including two losses on the last play.

"We're still playing for wins," Judge said. "We're not asking the fans to go ahead and be happy with mediocre results. When you look at the players we're building with, I see a lot of progress and I see us moving in the right direction."

Putting aside often-examined cornerstones Daniel Jones and Saquon Barkley, here is The Post's midseason assessment of 14 second-, third- and fourth-year players (mostly draft picks) who needed to develop for this season to be productive. Stats and rankings from Pro Football Focus:

PROGRESSING

DT Dexter Lawrence: The prize return in the Odell Beckham Jr. trade ranks No. 17 among NFL interior defensive linemen. Two sacks on 13 quarterback pressures, plus 14 run stops, despite drawing the most attention from opposing offensive lines.

WR Darius Slayton: The only Giant with a touchdown catch (three) in any of the first six games and clearly

Building blocks or building obstacles?

Jones' go-to target. Eleven scores on 76 career touches speaks to an elite level of explosiveness.

DT Dalvin Tomlinson: Set to earn a big raise in upcoming free agency as the No. 12-ranked interior defensive lineman, with 18 run stops and one sack.

TO BE DECIDED

OLB Lorenzo Carter: Responded to an expanded role with five quarterback hits, one sack and steady run defense in five games. Development into a bona fide athletic pass rusher halted by a torn Achilles.

OLB Oshane Ximines: Struggled setting the edge against the run and performed more like a situational pass rusher. Had three quarterback hits before going on injured reserve, but still will be looking to add to his 4.5 sacks as a rookie.

C Nick Gates: Rewarded with a two-year, \$8.6 million contract in the offseason after three career starts, but slowly adjusting to a new position. Embodies the nastiness the Giants want to portray up front, but is the No. 33-ranked center.

LEVELED OFF

LG Will Hernandez: Picture of reliability hasn't missed any of the Giants' 2,523 offensive snaps since 2018. Once-promising rookie has allowed one sack on 21 pressures and ranks No. 45 among guards in run-blocking.

DT B.J. Hill: Stuck at fourth in the interior defensive line rotation since the middle of last season and has one quarterback hit (sack). If he doesn't

step up, how can the Giants be confident losing either Tomlinson or Leonard Williams in free agency?

SS Jabrill Peppers: Expectation of a coverage upgrade over Landon Collins hasn't panned out. No. 60-ranked safety is at his best playing in the box and has allowed 14 catches on 18 targets, including the Eagles' game-winning touchdown.

REGRESSING

TE Evan Engram: Finally healthy, but the Giants can't seem to get him the ball unless it's on an end-around run. Too many curls and not enough seam routes in this scheme. Killer drop against the Eagles was his fourth against 26 catches for 223 yards, and old blocking struggles returned.

CB Corey Ballentine: Went from starting the first two games out of necessity (allowed seven receptions and a touchdown on nine targets) to playing zero total defensive snaps in the next four. Judgment seems off on kick returns, too.

DT R.J. McIntosh: Zero games active after showing signs of life with two sacks last season.

DB Julian Love: Lost snaps to late-camp addition Logan Ryan (understandable) and waiver pickup Adrian Colbert (warning sign) and will be further minimized when Xavier McKinney returns from IR. Blew an assignment on the late touchdown by the Rams in Week 4.

TE Kaden Smith: Flourished with Engram sidelined (31 catches for 268 yards and three touchdowns) last season. Levine Toilolo is a better blocker, so Smith hasn't found his place, with 10 catches behind a healthy Engram.

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McKinney return still weeks away

By RYAN DUNLEAVY

GIANTS NOTES

This X-man has not yet cometh back.

Rookie safety Xavier McKinney remains out of sight after undergoing surgery in late August to repair the broken fifth metatarsal in his foot. The second-round pick and projected starter was placed on injured reserve and initially expected to be out at least 10 weeks.

"He's doing a really good job in his rehab," coach Joe Judge said. "I know the trainers are pleased with the progress he's making. Obviously everyone is on their own individual timetable, but I see him in the weight room making progress."

McKinney is not out of the Giants' minds.

"This guy's in good spirits," Judge said. "He does a tremendous job for us in meetings, staying engaged, staying up on scouting reports of other teams. We give him some projects internally to make sure he improves his own football IQ in terms of how to look at the other teams, that he's mentally preparing and mentally advancing."

As with all players on IR, the Giants can slowly bring back McKinney, with a 21-day window from his return to practice before needing to activate him or shut him

down for the season. At this point, it is unlikely McKinney will make his NFL debut before the Week 11 bye on Nov. 22.

"We'll see where he is in terms of the long term, getting him back on the field," Judge said. "We're all very optimistic and eager to get him back on the grass."

➤ The Giants are not required to compile an official injury report until Thursday, but RB **Devonta Freeman** (ankle) and WR **C.J. Board** worked with trainers off to the side of practice. CB **Darnay Holmes** (neck) and safety **Adrian Colbert** wore non-contact jerseys during individual periods.

Freeman left the last game against the Eagles due to injury, turning over lead rushing duties to **Wayne Gallman**. Board was hospitalized after a big hit against Washington on Oct. 18 and did not play last week.

➤ The Giants signed OLB **Trent Harris**, who played nine snaps against the Eagles, off the practice squad to fill the roster spot opened by trading **Markus Golden** to the Cardinals.

WR **Corey Coleman**, TE **Rysen John** and safety **Montre Hartage** were signed to the practice squad.

More Giants / P 34

THE JETS have plenty of NFL draft blunders to choose from. Just go to YouTube and you can find a video from a few years ago that ESPN did of Pete Rozelle and Paul Tagliabue announcing picks to groans and disbelief from Jets fans.

A recent draft mistake is going to be on the minds of Jets fans Sunday as they watch Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs almost certainly embarrass their team. Mahomes could have been a Jet in 2017, but former general manager Mike Maccagnan passed on him with the No. 6 pick because he believed the Jets might already have their quarterback of the future in Christian Hackenberg, and if they didn't, they would grab him in the 2018 draft, which was being viewed as a more QB-rich draft.

Three years later, it is clear what a miscalculation this was by Maccagnan. It is one of many he made as Jets GM and it is part of the reason the current team has such little talent.

In fairness, Maccagnan drafted a very good player instead of Mahomes when he selected Jamal Adams out of LSU. Adams became an All-Pro before the relationship between him and the Jets fell apart this past offseason over money and he was shipped to Seattle.

So, no, this was not taking Kyle Brady over Warren Sapp.

Mahomes, however, looks like a generational talent, a future Hall of Famer and maybe the best quarterback for the next decade-plus. I don't care how good Adams is. You take that guy.

The Jets were in quarterback purgatory at the time. Hackenberg was entering his second season. Bryce Petty was entering his third. The team had signed Josh McCown as a veteran stopgap.

After speaking to several people who were in the Jets' organization at the time and were involved in the draft, it is clear the Jets never seriously considered drafting Mahomes. They had worked him out at Texas Tech and even had him to Florham Park for a visit. But Maccagnan was committed to giving Hackenberg a chance to play in 2017 after taking him in the second round the year before.

Todd Bowles and his coaching staff had already made up their



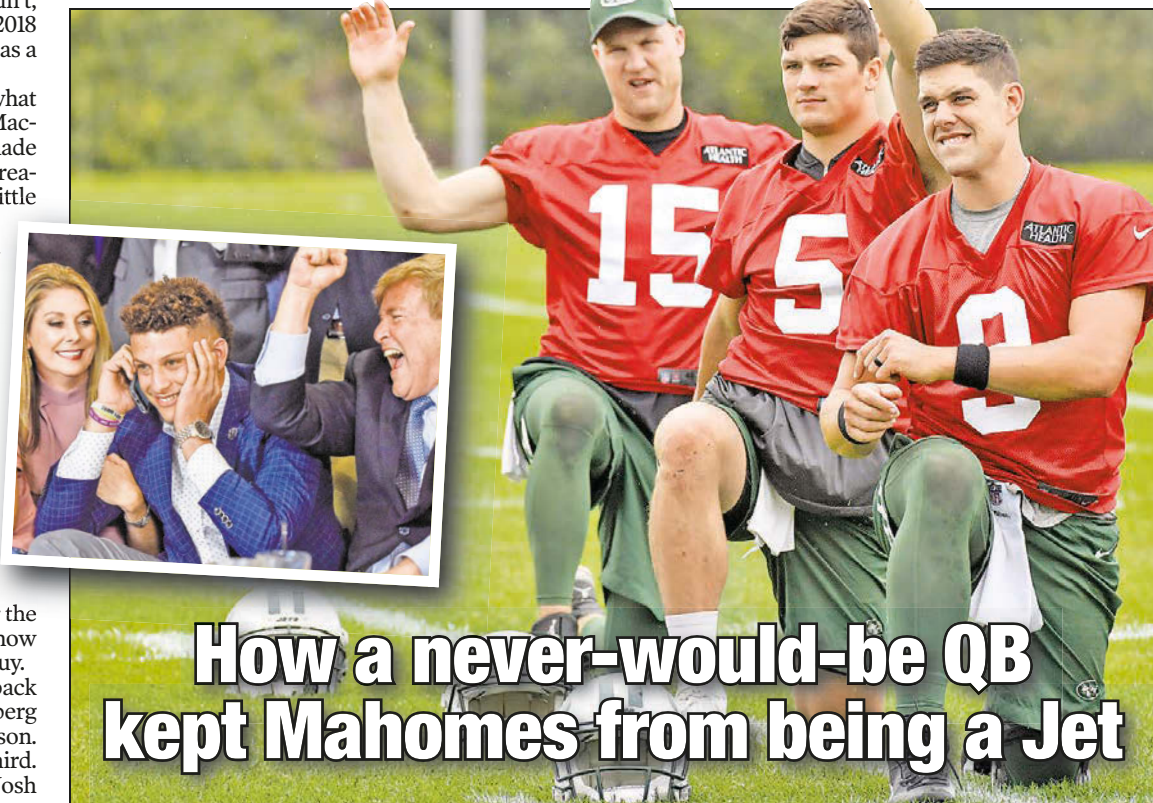
Brian Costello

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ON THE JETS



HACK & BLUE



How a never-would-be QB kept Mahomes from being a Jet

THESE GUYS? REALLY? With a quarterbacks room that included (from left) veteran stopgap Josh McCown, Christian Hackenberg (in his second season) and Bryce Petty (in his third), GM Mike Maccagnan decided the Jets didn't need a quarterback and passed on Patrick Mahomes on draft day in 2017. Bill Kastroun; AP

minds, though, that Hackenberg could not do it. Maccagnan should have seen that and moved on, even though he would have been criticized for wasting a second-round pick. He just delayed that criticism by a year.

Maccagnan did already have an eye on 2018, too. Sam Darnold, Josh Rosen and Josh Allen were all

seen as top picks a year before their draft. The Jets were dumping veterans that offseason and there was speculation they were planning to tank the 2017 season. That was never accurate, but the Jets did feel confident they would be choosing early in the 2018 draft and would have a shot at a franchise quarterback.

That did not stop them from doing work on the top quarterbacks in the 2017 class — Mahomes, Mitchell Trubisky and Deshaun Watson. They worked them all out, but there was not a lot of conversation about selecting one of them with the sixth pick. One person who was high up in the organization said Maccagnan was secretive

about everything, afraid information would leak, so there were very few people other than his right-hand man, Brian Heimerdinger, who knew exactly what the GM was thinking. Maccagnan did not respond to messages seeking comment for this column.

The truth is, Maccagnan was not the only one who underrated Mahomes. Nine teams passed on him, including other QB-needy teams like the Browns, Bears, 49ers, Chargers and Bengals. The Chiefs moved up 18 spots to take Mahomes at No. 10, worried the Saints or Cardinals were going to draft him.

You could excuse Maccagnan by saying he was not the only one who got it wrong or pointing to the mock drafts that had Mahomes going late in the first round, but he was paid a lot of money to be a better talent evaluator than everyone else. The Chiefs nailed this one and drafted Mahomes even though they already had Alex Smith, a better quarterback than the Jets had on their roster.

Call it hindsight, but Maccagnan botched this one badly.

It has worked out for Mahomes. He already has one MVP trophy and a Super Bowl ring. If the Jets had drafted him, chances are things would not have gone so smoothly. He would not have gotten a year to learn behind Smith or gotten the chance to play for Andy Reid and with weapons like Travis Kelce and Tyreek Hill.

Still, Mahomes looks like he has the type of talent to overcome anything — even the Jets.

They'll get an up-close look at that talent Sunday and it will be a painful reminder for Jets fans of what could have been.

Bieniemy gets another shot to impress Gang

THERE will be a lot of focus this week on Chiefs running back **Le'Veon Bell**, and the idea that he will be out for revenge against the Jets, who released him two weeks ago. But I think the relationship between another member of the Chiefs and the Jets is more interesting.

In January 2019, the Jets

interviewed Kansas City offensive coordinator **Eric Bieniemy** for their head-coach opening before hiring **Adam Gase** instead. In a few months, they may be seeking to interview him again to replace Gase.

The Jets liked Bieniemy when they interviewed him, but they had concerns about how much of the

Chiefs' offensive success was due to him and how much of it was **Andy Reid**. Bieniemy also wanted to call plays with the Jets, which he had never done.

Since that interview, Bieniemy has won a Super Bowl with the Chiefs and become the most popular name on the coaching market — though the Chiefs

are coy about who actually calls the plays, saying everyone is involved. The Jets surely will be interested again if they are in the market for a new head coach. Sunday could be an early job interview for Bieniemy and a chance to show Jets ownership what they missed out on when they passed on him last year.

That's some spread

The point spread for Sunday's Jets-Chiefs game is 19.5 points, one of the largest in team history. Here are the five biggest spreads when the Jets have been underdogs:

Date	Opp.	Spread	Result	Covered?
Dec. 16, 2007	at Patriots	20.5	L, 20-10	Yes
Sept. 22, 2019	at Patriots	20.5	L 30-14	Yes
Jan. 12, 1969	vs. Colts*	18	W, 16-7	Yes
Dec. 6, 1992	at Bills	17	W, 24-17	Yes
Dec. 24, 2016	at Patriots	17	L, 41-3	No

*Super Bowl III in Miami; Source: Pro Football Reference

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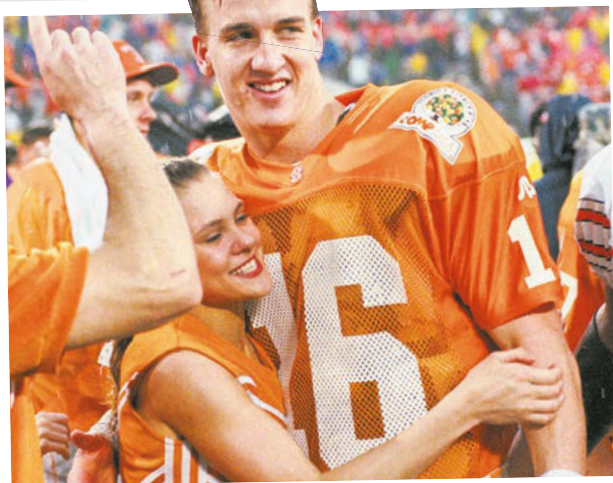
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NOT AGAIN! Trevor Lawrence may not be ready to wave goodbye to college just yet, as the Clemson star backtracked Tuesday after initially stating this would be his final season. It could be devastating to the Jets, who may hold the No. 1 pick in the 2021 draft, just as they did 24 years earlier when Peyton Manning (inset) chose to return to Tennessee instead of going pro.

AP (2)

BACK TO SCHOOL?

WE KNOW a thing or two in New York City about how quarterbacks can engineer their careers when they truly want to. Specifically, we have seen the machinations of the Manning family, one brother tap-dancing away from New York, one brother diving in.

Once upon a time, Peyton Manning decided to use the final year of his college eligibility to stay at Tennessee. He won neither the Heisman Trophy nor the national title for his troubles, but he did avoid the Jets, who were picking first in the 1997 draft. It's hard to argue with how it worked out for him, two Super Bowls and almost 72,000 passing yards later.

Seven years later, Eli Manning decided to



Mike Vaccaro

play hardball with the Chargers, who had the first pick of the 2004 draft, teaming with his dad, Archie, to warn San Diego off picking him. The Chargers picked him anyway, then received a nice payout of draft picks in a trade with the Giants. It's hard to argue with how that worked out for him, two Super Bowls and over 57,000 yards later.

(We can only assume that somehow, some way, if the

Jets and Giants are still residing amid the NFL's dregs in 2026 — and who's betting against that? — that Arch Manning, son of Cooper, grandson

of Archie, will figure out a way to toy with New York's heartstrings again when he's coming out of Ole Miss or LSU or whatever campus stop-over he selects.)

So we know both sides of the game Clemson's Trevor Lawrence is playing now, whether he is doing so wittingly or not. There's been a whole lot of speculating around here about the Jets and the No. 1 pick next spring, an inevitability when the Jets seem locked on cruise control toward 0-16.

Until now, it's mostly been fun and games and speculation: we photo-shopped him in a Jets uniform the other day here at The Post. Some have urged Lawrence to do everything in his power to avoid the dystopian dysfunc-

tion that defines the Jets right now. Lawrence himself added a few kilos of kerosene to that Tuesday when he said on a Zoom call:

"My mindset has been that I'm going to move on. But who knows? There's a lot of things that could happen."

There is indeed a lot that could happen.

Here's what should happen:

Lawrence should embrace the challenge of the Jets — and, make no mistake, it is a challenge of epic proportions. Right now, he has no idea who his coach would be here. It probably won't be Adam Gase, but it sure seems like it might take an executive order to compel Christopher Johnson to actually make that move. The Jets are a mess, every bit as much of a tire

Lawrence keeps his options open, may spurn Jets/NFL for senior year

By ZACH BRAZILLER

Suddenly, the Jets don't control their destiny regarding Trevor Lawrence. Losing out now may not even guarantee them a shot at the once-in-a-generation quarterback prospect.

Lawrence, top-ranked Clemson's 6-foot-6 prodigy, is toying with pulling a Peyton Manning, saying on Tuesday a return to school for his senior year is not out of the question after he initially stated that his plan was to go pro following this season.

"Obviously, I have the option to do either one. Kind of my mindset has been that I am going to move on," Lawrence told reporters on Tuesday over Zoom. "But who knows? There's a lot of things that could happen."

What those "things are" remain unclear. The 0-7 Jets are the favorites to land the No. 1 pick at the moment, their fans dreaming of a shot to draft Lawrence, the Heisman Trophy favorite who guided Clemson to a national title as a freshman and the championship game last year.

Last week, former Falcons wide receiver Roddy White — the cousin of Clemson offensive coordinator Tony Elliott — said Lawrence should stay in school if the Jets wind up with the No. 1 pick.

"If I'm Trevor Lawrence, if the Jets finish with no wins, I just go back to Clemson. ... I don't want any part of that organization," White told The Big Lead.

Heisman winner and former Jets quarterback Tim Tebow said he believes Lawrence needs to analyze the situation before making a decision. That means speaking to the Jets, or whom-ever winds up with the No. 1 pick, to get a read on their plans for him.

"I think he's got to do a lot of evaluation," Tebow said on the "Tiki and Tierney" show on CBS Sports Radio. "I would really encourage Trevor to find out: How are they going to use you? How are they going to support you? If I was him, I would genuinely try to evaluate everything and look at it with open eyes. Because he's so good and he's so talented and he's a great prospect, he will have leverage."

Following the 1996 season, Manning returned to Tennessee rather than entering the draft and joining the 1-15 Jets. They ended up trading down, winding up with the No. 8-overall pick and taking James Farrior, a linebacker out of Virginia. The next season, Manning was picked by the Colts first overall and enjoyed a Hall of Fame career. The Jets are still waiting for that franchise quarterback. The hope was Sam Darnold, taken third overall in the 2018 draft, would be that player. But he has yet to live up to expectations, partly because he hasn't been surrounded by nearly enough talent. And this year, Darnold has twice as many interceptions (six) as touchdown passes (three).

Lawrence, meanwhile, is considered by most experts to be the best quarterback prospect in years. ESPN draft guru Mel Kiper Jr. told The Post he would put Lawrence in the same category as Manning, John Elway and Andrew Luck. Luck's personal quarterback coach during his rise, George Whitfield Jr., said he hasn't seen a prospect since Luck who was better than Lawrence.

Lawrence, a Cartersville, Ga., native, has lost just one game in college, to LSU in last year's national championship game. He has led Clemson to a 6-0 start this year, has thrown 17 touchdown passes with two interceptions and leads the ACC in passing yards per game (305.5), total yards (1,833), yards per attempt (9.6) and completion percentage (70.7).

The phrase "Tank for Trevor" has become a popular Sunday theme for losing teams. It may need to be shelved for a year. For now, there is some doubt Lawrence will enter his name into the 2021 draft.

"I am really just focused on this year. I am not trying to look ahead, and I am not trying to worry about [the draft]," he said. "Obviously, I can't control it and really just trusting that God has a plan for me no matter where that is, no matter where I go, whether that is across the country or that is close to home or I stay another year."

"No matter what it is, we will work it out. I am not sure. That is a tough one. We will see how it all unfolds."

For the Jets, the one potential bright spot in a disastrous season could be fading. It may be Peyton Manning all over again — 24 years later.

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CLOSER CALL:
Wrapped in a Mexican flag, Julio Urias celebrates the Dodgers' World Series win. AP

Dodgers use Urias, bullpen to finish Rays

By MIKE PUMA

The prototypical bullpen game completed the final leg of the Dodgers' journey Tuesday night.

Manager Dave Roberts employed Tony Gonsolin as his opener and then shuttled in six relievers to stifle the Rays in the Dodgers' 3-1 victory in Game 6 of the World Series.

Gonsolin surrendered a first-inning homer to Randy Arozarena and was removed after recording five outs. The parade of relievers followed. In all, the Dodgers received 7 1/3 shutout innings from the bullpen — capped by Julio Urias. That unit had pitched 4 1/3 shut-out innings the previous game.

Roberts had decided against starting Walker Buehler on short rest, opting to keep his co-ace on his regular turn for a potential Game 7. Only strengthening Roberts' resolve was the fact he had Urias available from the bullpen, three days after the electric left-hander had started against the Rays.

On this night, Urias pitched 2 1/3 perfect innings, striking out four, and earned the save, marking the second straight postseason series he closed out with dominant relief. Urias had fired three perfect innings to finish Game 7 of the NLCS against the Braves.

"I just focused on getting the one out," said Urias, who entered Tuesday in the seventh inning with a man on and two out. "Little by little, I just went batter by batter and when I least expected it I was getting the final out."

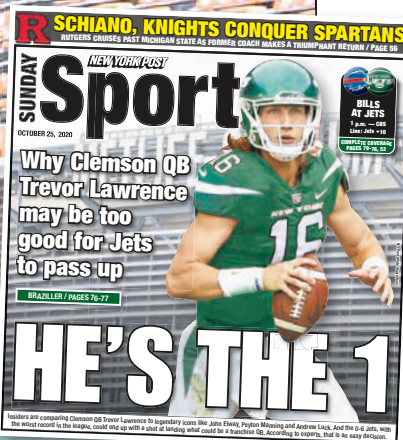
Urias started Game 4 on Saturday, allowing two earned runs on four hits over 4 2/3 innings with nine strikeouts. He departed with the Dodgers ahead 3-2, but the game turned wild in the later innings, punctuated by Arozarena's dash to the plate in the ninth inning with the winning run.

Kenley Jansen never resurfaced after blowing the save in Game 4. The erratic closer was also avoided in Game 5, when Roberts used Blake Treinen to get the final three outs in a save situation.

Urias wasn't the only bullpen star on Tuesday. Another left-hander, Alex Wood, fired two scoreless innings with three strikeouts on a night when the Rays whiffed 16 times.

Dylan Floro recorded a big out in the second inning, replacing Gonsolin and striking out the only batter he faced, Arozarena. The Dodgers also received strong relief performances from Pedro Baez, Victor Gonzalez and Brusdar Graterol ahead of Urias.

"It's a beautiful feeling," Urias said of throwing the final pitch in the World Series clincher. "You know everybody is waiting for that out and I'm thankful to God for the opportunity and thankful for all the blessings."



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fire as any team holding the precious commodity of a No. 1-overall pick has ever been.

But here's the thing:

We keep trying to find the "next Joe Namath" among the parade of quarterbacks — young phenoms and washed-out veterans and every other iteration in between — who have come after Joe Willie since he last played for the Jets 44 years ago. We always look for the arm that will signal a true successor, or the colorful personality, or the embrace of fame and glitz. When we talk of Namath, it is always in the context of stars.

We underplay his stones.

We always forget the courage it took for Namath to pick the Jets in the spring of 1965.

Yes, they threw gobs of money at him. But the Jets of '65 were every bit as pathetic as the present incarnation, unloved and virtually unwanted in their own city, a team that had never had a winning season, never sniffed a playoff game. Namath himself has said he always dreamed of playing in the NFL; the St. Louis Cardinals gave him that chance. He could easily have chosen the establishment. He easily could have taken that fortified path.

He chose New York instead. He chose Broadway. He chose to make something out of nothing in New York, and he became more than a success, more than a star — he became an icon. He was Bachelors III and "The Brady Bunch" and "C.C. and Company" with Ann-

Margret as his co-star and Raquel Welch on his arm. He became an idol to generations of football fans. And, yes, he became a champion, too, and a Hall of Famer.

Would he have done that in St. Louis?

Would "Joplin Joe" have quite the same ring to it?

Look, there are plenty of reasons Lawrence should take Peyton Path instead of Eli Way, finagle his way away from New York, away from the Jets, away from the Johnson Brothers, and some of that logic might even make perfect sense. Or he could bet on himself, bet on his talent, bet on a city that is begging for a reason to baptize him with adoration.

Sure, it's a gamble.

Fifty-five years ago, another star quarterback with equal parts gift and gumption took a similar spin of the wheel. And look how it worked out for him.

mvaccaro@nypost.com



GOOD TO GO: Steve Cohen's purchase of the Mets from the Wilpons is expected to be approved by Major League Baseball's Executive Committee on Friday, sources told The Post. Getty Images

Cohen expected to get MLB OK in Friday vote

By KEN DAVIDOFF
in Arlington, Texas,
and JOEL SHERMAN
in New York

Major League Baseball owners will vote on the sale of the Mets on Friday, three industry sources told The Post. The transfer from the Wilpons to Steve Cohen is expected to pass.

The hedge-fund titan Cohen, who has agreed to purchase the Mets for \$2.4 billion, needs 22 of 29 votes in order to gain approval. The Ownership Committee, which conducted a deep dive into Cohen, signed off easily on this matter last week, and the Executive Committee will green-light it as a formality on Friday, thereby advancing it to the full vote. The full vote will be conducted virtually, as the scheduled November meetings in Dallas probably won't be held due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf, who contested Cohen's unsuccessful pursuit of

the Dodgers last decade, stands a definite "No" and still is attempting to rally others to his side, sources said; he probably won't be the only owner who votes against it. However, the sense throughout MLB is that the Cohen opposition will not accrue the eight votes required to torpedo this record-setting deal.

Once the owners support Cohen's membership into their club, the remaining box to check will be New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio's thumbs up, by virtue of the Citi Field lease agreement with the city. De Blasio gave no indication in public comments Monday that he would block this transfer from occurring.

While Cohen's connection to insider trading (S.A.C. Capital Advisors, which he founded, pleaded guilty in 2013 to the crime and paid \$1.8 billion in fines) hardly makes him an ideal candidate, the fact Cohen himself was not convicted creates some cushion, and the price he is paying — the most ever for an MLB team — fur-

ther boosts his case, as owners enjoy seeing their franchise values rise. Cohen's status as a singular entity, unlike the Alex Rodriguez-Jennifer Lopez conglomerate, also helps.

If Cohen can clear the remaining hurdles, he will install former Mets general manager Sandy Alderson as team president, and Alderson in turn appears likely to jettison current GM Brodie Van Wagenen; current Mets manager Luis Rojas has a better chance of keeping his job due to his past relationship with Alderson. As long as the vote goes as anticipated on Friday and de Blasio doesn't drag his heels on his approval, Cohen and the Mets will put themselves on an even playing field, time-wise, to build next year's team. The expected slow unfolding of the free-agent market, thanks to teams losing so much money this year and unsure of what they'll make next year due to the pandemic, should even give Alderson time to restructure his front office if he so desires and still not lose out on anything significant.

OUT OF ISOLATION: Justin Turner, who was removed from the Dodgers' 3-1 Game 6 victory over the Rays after testing positive for COVID-19, hoists the Commissioner's Trophy while celebrating with teammates on the field. The former Met wore a mask while celebrating, but removed it while taking a team photo (right).

USA TODAY Sports; EPA



TURN' OF EVENTS

Many unanswered questions as virus infects Series finale

ARLINGTON, Texas — After all the hoops Major League Baseball jumped through to get to this marvelous point, it couldn't quite stick the landing. 2020 continues to be a foe for the ages.

Just moments after the Dodgers defeated the Rays on Tuesday night, 3-1 in World Series Game 6 at Globe Life Field, securing their first title in 32 years, the game's broadcaster Fox reported that veteran Dodgers third baseman Justin Turner, the former Met, left the contest after the seventh inning when he tested positive for the coronavirus.

And suddenly Kevin Cash's decision to lift a dominant Blake Snell hardly seemed so controversial after all.

Why wasn't the game immediately put on ice upon learning this news? Why were players and bubbled family members, many not wearing masks, allowed to celebrate on the field after the game? If they had paused, or if the Rays had come back to win this game, would there have been a multi-day



Ken Davidoff

break out of an abundance of caution (to revive a popular phrase from the regular season) before resuming action?

Commissioner Rob Manfred, who stood on the field and presented his trophy to Dodgers owner Mark Walter, answered one question from Fox reporter Tom Verducci about Turner but didn't participate in a Zoom news conference afterwards, leaving many unanswered queries. Leaving an aftermath that will feature as much concern as celebration for the Dodgers.

As Turner quickly tweeted, "I feel great, no symptoms at all," his fellow Dodgers voiced heartbreak that their beloved teammate couldn't be there for Julio Urias' series-ending strikeout of Willy Adames.

"That hurts," Dodgers manager

Dave Roberts said.

"To have that happen to a guy like that, a dude that reinvented himself when he came here, what he meant to this franchise, to take that away from him it's gut-wrenching," World Series Most Valuable Player Corey Seager said. "If I could switch places with him, I would. ... That's just not right. That doesn't sit well with me."

The entire situation shouldn't sit well with folks. As The Post's Joel Sherman reported, MLB learned during the second inning Tuesday that Turner's coronavirus test from Monday had come back inconclusive. MLB reacted to that by asking its Utah laboratory to run Turner's tests for both Monday and Tuesday, and the latter came back positive. MLB swiftly notified Dodgers president of baseball operations Andrew Friedman to get Turner out of the game; Edwin Rios took over third base for the top of the eighth.

Why not call the game right then and there and pick up when the coast is clear? MLB had a precedent at its disposal, a Reds game



in which center fielder Nick Senzel set off similar alarms and left early (apparently Aug. 7 at Milwaukee) as the game continued. Why that's a medically sound process, I'd love to know; the Reds didn't play from Aug. 15-18 when a player tested positive.

And even if you concede to that precedent, why risk further spread by letting the Dodgers congregate, hug and pose for photos afterward? Many photos that hit social media featured a maskless Turner on the field, smiling, which would be a disastrous optic. When I asked Mookie Betts whether he saw Turner on the field, he halted and

said, a couple of times, "He's part of the team. He's part of the team."

ESPN's Jeff Passan reported that the Dodgers planned to get rapid tests upon returning to their hotel Tuesday night, their travel plans to be determined. It's all very fluid. It's all highly unfortunate.

MLB, the team officials and the players did nothing less than amazing work to get here. But we've learned, so painfully, that you can't let up against this disease. Maybe MLB did everything right here. Definitely, we leave this season of COVID thinking just as much about COVID as the season.

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Dodgers 3B exits game after positive COVID test

By MIKE PUMA

A baseball season shortened by COVID-19 and challenged daily by the limits of trying to prevent the virus' spread within the game, ended with a player testing positive on the final day.

Justin Turner was removed from Game 6 of the World Series before the start of the eighth inning Tuesday night because of a positive test for the novel coronavirus, commissioner Rob Manfred said.

The Dodgers third baseman was the first player in MLB to test positive in

nearly two months.

"It's a bittersweet night for us," Manfred said after the Dodgers won their first World Series title since 1988, beating the Rays 3-1 at Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas. "We are glad to be done. I do think it's a great accomplishment for our players to get this season completed, but obviously we are concerned when any of our players test positive."

"We learned during the game that Justin was a positive. He was immediately isolated to prevent spread."

The Post's Joel Sherman

reported that MLB officials were alerted during the second inning that Turner's test from Monday had returned inconclusive. The Utah lab conducting the testing was asked to run that sample and one from Tuesday again, and the latter was positive.

Dodgers president of baseball operations Andrew Friedman was alerted by MLB to have Turner removed, but suspending the game wasn't considered based on precedent: earlier this season the Reds' Nick Senzel was removed from a game after receiving notifi-

cation of a positive test, but play continued. The Dodgers will receive further testing Wednesday.

Turner tweeted that he wasn't experiencing symptoms.

"I feel great," said Turner, who was on the field wearing a mask while celebrating with his teammates, but removed it for a team photo. "Just experienced every emotion you can possibly imagine. Can't believe I couldn't be out there to celebrate with my guys! So proud of this team and unbelievably happy for the City of LA."

MLB implemented a "bubble" in an effort to ensure this postseason would be completed without a COVID-19 outbreak. The Dodgers, who played the NLDS and NLCS at Globe Life Field, had stayed at the same hotel for three weeks, with family members permitted to accompany players and staff.

MLB played a 60-game regular season, resisting the idea of extending into November because of fears a second wave of COVID-19 would compromise the chances of completing the World Series.

It is unclear what steps MLB would have taken if the Rays won Tuesday and a Game 7 became necessary. The Marlins, Cardinals and Mets were among the teams during the regular season that had players and staff test positive, and in each case games were postponed for at least a week to allow for further testing.

MLB had gone 58 days without a positive test. In a news release last Friday, the Commissioner's Office said 172,740 tests had been administered to date with 91 positives.

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END OF THE WORLD

Rays manager's all-time blunder hands Dodgers 1st title since '88

By GEORGE A. KING III

Rays manager Kevin Cash's decision to lift a dominating Blake Snell on Tuesday night in Game 6 of the World Series will be talked about forever and add rocket fuel to the debate about the place of analytics in baseball.

And the Dodgers will love hearing every word of the story, since the decision played a big part in them winning their first World Series title since 1988, a pulsating 3-1 victory at Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas.

What made the Dodgers' title bittersweet was third baseman Justin Turner being removed from the game after the seventh inning because of a positive COVID-19 test.

Snell was cruising through 5 1/3 innings in which he hadn't given up a run, allowed two singles, didn't issue a walk and struck out nine. Then Cash, sticking to a plan that was used very successfully throughout the 60-game regular season and the postseason, called for right-hander Nick Anderson.

Dodgers manager Dave Roberts looked at Mookie Betts and got a small smile back.

"I was pretty happy because he was dominating us, we weren't seeing him," Roberts said. "Once Austin [Barnes] got that hit [a one-out single], Mookie looked at me with a little smile and we were all kind of excited that Snell was out of the game."

Anderson, a bullpen bear during the regular season who had faltered lately, fell behind Betts, 2-0, and watched him rip a double down the third-base line that sent Barnes to third. Anderson's wild pitch sent Barnes home to tie the score, 1-1, and Betts scored on MVP Corey Seager's ground ball to first baseman Ji-Man Choi. Due to a strong read of the ball off the bat, Betts beat Choi's throw home with a headfirst slide to give the Dodgers the lead.

Two innings later, Betts launched a homer to left-center for a 3-1 cushion.

Lefty Julio Urias entered the game for the Dodgers in the seventh with a runner on first and two outs, replacing lefty Victor Gonzalez



who struck out three in 1 1/3 innings.

Urias struck pinch-hitter Yandy Diaz looking for the final out and then worked a perfect eighth to put the Dodgers three outs away from their first World Series championship in 32 years.

With late-inning relievers Kenley Jansen and Blake Treinen remaining in the bullpen, Urias recorded the final three outs for the victory that ignited a celebration tempered by not having Turner, who was immediately placed in isolation before later returning to the field to join his teammates.

That will be part of the Dodger story, and Cash will wear the decision to remove Snell for a while.

"The only motive was the lineup, the Dodgers is as potent as any team in the league. Personally, I felt Blake did his job and then some," Cash said. "Mookie coming around a third

time through. I value that and I totally understand the questions that come with it. Blake gave us every opportunity to win. They are not easy decisions. Once Barnes got on base I didn't want Mookie and Seager seeing Blake a third time."

Snell simply didn't want to leave, though the nanosecond Cash popped out of the dugout the lefty understood knew he was done.

"Definitely disappointed. I wanted the ball. I did everything I could to state my case to stay out there," Snell said. "It sucks. I wanted to stay out there as long as I can. That was one of the better games I have pitched in a long time. I felt very comfortable out there, the way I scouted them, the way I scouted myself. I knew when I was going to switch it up. I thought I did everything I could to stay in that game."

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Game 1: Dodgers 8, Rays 3

Game 2: Rays 6, Dodgers 4

Game 3: Dodgers 6, Rays 2

Game 4: Rays 8, Dodgers 7

Game 5: Dodgers 4, Rays 2

Game 6: Dodgers 3, Rays 1

Dodgers won series, 4-2



IT'S OVER: Mookie Betts' eighth-inning home run offered a cushion in the Dodgers' 3-1 win in Game 6 Tuesday night, clinching the World Series and setting off a wild celebration for players (top left), including Clayton Kershaw (inset).

AP (3)



WORLD ²⁰²⁰ SERIES



LOS ANGELES
DODGERS



FOR the Dodgers the symbols of their last two championships are Kirk Gibson limping around the bases and Kevin Cash walking out of a dugout.

The first made the great Vin Scully proclaim, "In a year that has been so improbable, the impossible has happened." The same could have been said Tuesday night. In this improbable pandemic season, Cash, the Rays manager, did the impossible — he managed the game in his imagination rather than the one taking place on the actual field.

Blake Snell was offering a Madison Bumgarner, Curt Schilling, Bob Gibson kind of October performance. But hours before Snell threw his first pitch of World Series Game 6 — thus, hours before he had any idea what the lefty would deliver — Cash had decided Snell would not face anyone in the Dodger lineup a third time. Not one batter. No matter if he were dominating the very top of the order that was due nor that the reliever Cash would be summoning, Nick Anderson, had been generally atrocious this postseason.

Napoleon famously said, "Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake." So the Dodgers stood back and watched Cash create his own Waterloo. If the art of managing best is doing what your opponent wants you to do least, then the Dodgers were thrilled to see Cash hook Snell with a two-hit, nine-strikeout shutout going one out into the sixth.

"I was pretty happy because [Snell] was dominating us and we weren't seeing him," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "We were all kind of excited that Snell was out of the game."

Even better for the Dodgers was to protect a 1-0 lead, Cash had brought in Anderson, who was already in the midst of a postseason record of giving up runs in six straight appearances. It would become seven quickly in what would be the seminal pivot of the Dodgers' clinching 3-1 triumph.

"Yes, I regret it because it didn't work out," Cash said. "I thought the thought process was right."

Cash is likely to win AL Manager of the Year on Nov. 10. He cobbled the sum of the parts into a whole good enough to not only get to the World Series, but challenge a Dodgers club superior on paper. He was expert at motivating players to buy into a team concept in which anyone could be used at any time — to check egos at the door. But that philosophy perhaps kept



REALLY?
Blake Snell reacts as he gets removed from Game 6 in the sixth inning by Rays manager Kevin Cash despite throwing just 73 pitches and having dominated the Dodgers.

Getty Images

The improbable to impossible ... again

him from appreciating what was occurring in front of him Tuesday night, leading to the worst World Series Game 6 flub since the ball was going through Buckner's legs in 1986. At least those Red Sox still had a chance in Game 7. There is



Joel Sherman

now no tomorrow for the Rays. What there was, instead, was the first title in 11,695 days for the Dodgers.

The last time the Dodgers won it all, "Red Red Wine" was the No. 1 song in the nation, "The Cosby Show" the No. 1 TV show and No. 1 starters were the key to winning championships. Nowadays, teams run away from even their aces. The math proves it a sound strategy, employed best probably by the Rays, whose long bullpen was central to their under-financed run to an AL title.

Still, context always matters. And what was occurring on the field was Snell throwing poise and pellets at the Dodgers.

"With how I felt today, I just wanted to ride," Snell said.

Randy Arozarena had homered as the second batter in the game to give the Rays a 1-0 lead, but Tampa Bay went hitless in four at-bats with runners in scoring position over the first two innings, squandering a chance to create distance. Still, Snell made 1-0 play like a larger advantage. His fastball, curve and slider were all magnificent. He looked like the 2018 AL Cy Young winner. Overpowering. Efficient. Cruising.

So when No. 9 hitter Austin Bar-

nes singled with one out in the sixth, Snell was at just 73 pitches. But the top of the lineup was due and Cash said he didn't want the lineup to get a third look at Snell. The top four of Mookie Betts, Corey Seager, Justin Turner and Max Muncy had tortured Rays pitching in this series. But they were 0-for-8 against Snell with seven strikeouts in Game 6.

Yet, here came Cash and there went Snell and the Rays' best chance to force a decisive Game 7. The theory of going to a strong pen is fine. But the Anderson who Cash was calling upon was not the force of the regular season. Betts lined his third pitch for a double to put runners at second and third. Barnes scored on a wild pitch and Betts — the best base runner in the majors — came home on an in-field-in grounder to first to give the Dodgers the lead for the rest of the 2020 season.

Betts would homer in the eighth off Peter Fairbanks. So against Snell, Betts struck out twice. Against the Rays pen he had the two biggest hits of the game — a double and a homer.

"It was Blake's game," Rays center fielder Kevin Kiermaier said. "He was dominating. I don't really care what the numbers say third time through the order or whatever. Not a lot of guys were making contact in general and no hard contact whatsoever. We all wanted him to stay in there."

The Dodgers had waited 32 years for more magic like Gibson's Game 1 homer in the 1988 World Series. And there was Cash walking toward the mound.

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TO 'KILL' FOR Allison Tolman (left) and Nick Frost will star in the next installment of “Why Women Kill” on CBS All Access. She will play “a timid and awkward housewife.”

“Law & Order: SVU” star Ice-T (right) will host “The Mediator with Ice-T,” which starts a four-week preview on Fox stations in late March. On the virtually produced show, he will seek resolutions between two feuding civilian parties.



TV Wednesday

DESIGNING WOMAN

By MICHAEL STARR

THE calling card of “The Masked Singer” has always been its eye-catching costumes, which take center

stage on each episode of the top-rated series, now its fourth season on Fox. But this season’s over-the-top creations — Giraffe, Snow Owl, Baby Alien, Mushroom et al. — were designed with TV’s current climate in mind, says Marina Toybina, the show’s award-winning costume designer who’s been with “The Masked Singer” since its January 2019 premiere.

“Every season we try to do something different, but this season was special because of so many different variables and obstacles with every show in production,” says Toybina, alluding to the pandemic. “We really wanted this season to be colorful and fun and big and happy, to put smiles on the viewers’ faces.”

Mission accomplished. “The Masked Singer” remains one of TV’s top draws; its Oct. 14 episode averaged nearly 11 million viewers, who watched Mark Sanchez revealed as the singer beneath Baby Alien.

(Wednesday night’s episode, airing at 8 p.m., will be pushed to next week if there’s a Game 7 of the World Series.)

“We’re trying to step out of the box this season in the ways we’re building our masks and costumes,” says Toybina. “Baby Alien was the first time we ever did a puppet. We thought, ‘What can we do that’s so extravagant and captivating to watch?’



How ‘The Masked Singer’ maestro creates those outrageous costumes



“The Masked Singer” costume designer Marina Toybina and a few of her creations from the current season (far left to right): Baby Alien, Snow Owls and Giraffe.



“The Snow Owl was our first dual costume,” she says. “We didn’t want it to be traditional — we wanted to expose two characters in there — and the two owls came into play, and from there it was incorporating more ornate details into the visuals. So we decided to put them in a Faberge egg, and from there the costume grew.”

Toybina says that she’s influenced by different elements.

“I try to push my own creative envelope in using resources from film, theater or the little things I’m inspired by,” she says. “Every time I think of a new character it’s important to come up with a story for that character. For the Giraffe [this season],

I didn’t want it to be the typical giraffe. I wanted it to be soft and pastel and friendly; I’m highly interested in period costumes.

“It’s almost like my Marie Antoinette inspiration.”

Toybina says she’s aware of the costumes being created for the international versions of “The Masked Singer” (which originated in South Korea). “We always try to keep our designs unique . . . Sometimes we get to see who’s a season ahead of us and what they’re experimenting with — but I try to stay minimal as far as resourcing other ideas.

“Every single costume has never been a repeat from the way it’s been sewn and built and we’ve used so many beautiful

techniques,” she says. “I would say, on the technical side, Lady Bug [from Season 2] was one of my favorites. I was really into its couture vibe. And the Swan [Season 3], which was more of a fashion approach — and White Tiger [Season 3] and Baby Alien.”

Toybina says work on the next season’s costumes starts immediately once the current season ends.

“We go right into the artwork for the next season,” she says. “Each build takes from two-to-six weeks.

“Most people think it takes us six months to build each costume — I’d be lucky if we had two-and-a-half months!”

100

The number of consecutive weeks that ABC’s “World News Tonight with David Muir” (above) has finished first in total viewers. It snared nearly 9 million viewers per night last week.

Hits keep comin’

“The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon” is TV’s top social show — generating 11.9 million interactions on Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, etc.



WHAT I'M WATCHING:
Elizabeth
Faith Ludlow

Storm Santos



“I find myself really being drawn to shows that offer some type of commentary on today’s issues. I’m a die hard fan of ‘The Handmaid’s Tale.’ The ways in which it reflects and speaks on the state of our world today is almost eerie. I’ve always had an affinity for sci-fi and fantasy, so ‘The Umbrella Academy’ has been satisfying that craving lately!” — Ludlow stars in “Equal” (HBO Max)

What's on Tonight



MOVIE
The A-Team: 5:30 p.m. on TNT. Bradley Cooper. A group of soldiers, falsely convicted of a crime, escape from prison to search for the real culprit.



MOVIE
Catch Me If You Can: 7:30 p.m. on SHO. Leonardo DiCaprio (above), Tom Hanks. A determined FBI agent tirelessly tracks a masterful con artist.



GAME SHOW
The Wall: 8 p.m. on WNBC 4. A bus driver and her sister, an electrician, use their skills to win the big prize. Chris Hardwick hosts.

Wednesday October 28, 2020

Evening	SP	C	F	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm	
2 WCBS	2	2	2	CBS News Norah	Inside Edition	Entertainment Tonight	The Amazing Race: Manaus, Brazil.		Big Brother				CBS 2 News at 11PM	(11:35) Late Show	
4 WNBC	4	4	4	NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	All Access	The Wall: Bus driver competes for prizes.		American Ninja Warrior: The top 28 athletes compete in the Finals round of the competition.			News 4 New York at 11		(11:35) Tonight Show	
5 WNYW	5	5	5	25 Words or Less	Extra	FOX Pregame Live.	2020 World Series: Game 7 (If necessary): Tampa Bay Rays vs Los Angeles Dodgers from Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas. Live.					FOX 5 News at 10	The Big Bang Theory		
7 WABC	7	7	7	ABC World News	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Goldbergs	American Housewife	The Conners	black-ish	The Con		News	(11:35) Kimmel Live	
9 WWOR	9	9	9	The Big Bang Theory	Family Feud	Family Feud (R)	Giants in 60		Dateline: Officials discuss controversial case.		Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud	Family Feud (R)	
11 WPIX	11	11	11	The Goldbergs	black-ish	black-ish	Devils: Dominic sets trap for Massimo's traders.		Coroner: Unreliable witness complicates things.		PIX11 News at Ten with Fadal and Chambers		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	
13 WNET	13	13	13	BBC World News	The PBS NewsHour		Nature: The caretakers of bushfire survivors.		NOVA: Scientists are exploring geoengineering.		The Age of Nature: Climate change.		Amanpour and Company		
21 WLIW	21	21	21	(6:00) News	Metro	Start Up	The War: Hitler launches attack in Belgium. (R)		Latino Vote: Dispatches		Metro		BBC World		
25 WNYE	25	22	25	Report	92Y on NYCLife		Secrets NY	New York	Neighbor	Eat Harlem	\$9.99	Story in	Speakeasy		
31 WPXN	31	3	531	(6:00) Blue	Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods: Defy order.		Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods		
41 WXTV	41	6	41	Noticiero	La rosa de Guadalupe		Médicos, línea de vida		Imperio de mentiras		Dulce ambición		Noticias 41	Noticiero	
47 WNJU	47	16	12	Noticias	El Domo del Dinero		Todo por mi hija		Falsa identidad		Noticiero		Noticias		
55 WLNY	55	10	10	Queens	Man	Man	Drew Barrymore		WLNY News at 9PM		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Girls	Girls	
A&E	46	46	181	Jack Reacher: Never Go Back (2016)			American Sniper (2015): Deadliest sniper questions kill shots. Bradley Cooper. R					(11:04) The First 48 (R)			
AMC	54	43	231	Seed of Chucky (2004): Dolls kill movie.			Ghost Ship (2002): Terrorized by ship. R ★★					The Final Destination (2009): Death seeks youth. R ★★			
BET	37	54	270	(5:00) Big Mommas: Like Father (2011)			Payne	Assisted	Tyler Perry's Sistas		Games People Play (R)		Tyler Perry's Sistas (R)		
BBCAM	71	101	189	The Conjuring (2013): Family terrorized.			Halloween (1978): Psycho stalks teens. R ★★½					Halloween H20: 20 Years Later (1998): Killer returns.			
BRAVO	18	44	185	Housewives	Real Housewives (R)		Housewives of Orange		Housewives of Orange		Watch What	Real Housewives (R)	Below Deck		
CNBC	15	24	102	Money	The News		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		
CNN	78	25	100	Situation	Erin Burnett OutFront		Anderson Cooper 360°		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight with Don		CNN Tonight with Don		
COM	45	50	190	South Park	South Park	South Park	(8:20) South Park (R)		South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	Daily Show	South Park	
DIS	49	31	250	Descendants 3 (2019): Isle of the Lost.			Big City (R)	Amphibia	Mickey (R)	Bizaard (R)	Bizaard (R)	Bizaard (R)	Good Luck	Good Luck	
DSC	66	27	120	Moonshiner	Moonshiners (R)		Gold Rush: Gold prices spike to record highs. (R)					(10:01) Gold Rush		(11:01) Gold Rush (R)	
E!	24	51	196	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Nightly Pop	
ESPN	28	36	70	Sports	Baseball Tonight		ESPN Original Document		30 for 30		MLS Soccer Live.				
ESPN2	29	35	74	(6:00) Daily	NBA: The Jump		UFC Unleashed (R)		UFC Unleashed (R)		NFL Live		SportsCenter with Scott		
FBN	43	106	117	Evening Ed	Lou Dobbs Tonight (R)		Kennedy		The Evening Edit (R)		Lou Dobbs Tonight (R)		Kennedy (R)		
FNC	44	26	118	Spc. Rpt.	The Story		Tucker Carlson Tonight		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		News @ Night		
FOOD	50	97	164	Grocery (R)	Guy's Grocery Games (R)		Guy's Grocery Games (R)		Guy's Grocery Games		Guy's Grocery Games (R)		Guy's Grocery Games (R)		
FREFRM	38	49	199	Monsters, Inc. (2001): Monsters in crisis. G ★★½			Monsters University (2013): Mike and Sulley meet in college. G ★★					The 700 Club (R)			
FS1	400	99	83	NASCAR	Pregame	MLS Soccer: Atlanta United FC at Orlando City SC. Live.			Magnify		MLB Postgame Live.				
FX	10	40	53	(6:00) Goosebumps (2015) PG ★★	Goosebumps (2015) PG ★★			Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween (2018) PG ★★½			Goosebumps (2015): Monsters released. PG ★★				
HALL		191	240	Christmas Scavenger Hunt (2019)			Christmas Town (2019): A woman's old life.			Christmas in Rome (2019): A tour guide.					
HGTV	64	98	165	Good Bones	Good Bones		Martha	Martha	Property Brothers		Hunters	Hunters	Hunters (R)	Hunters (R)	
HIST	40	47	128	Forged in	Forged in Fire (R)		Forged in Fire: Judges' Cut: Fantasy-style blades using a meteorite; first responders show their talents.								
ID	23	171	123	The Tapes	The Murder Tapes (R)		The Murder Tapes (R)		Gone Viral	Gone Viral	Chaos in Court		20/20 on ID (R)		
LIFE	62	45	140	Married (R)	Married (R)	Married	Married at First Sight: Relationship choice.					(10:03) Married First		(11:03) Married First (R)	
MeTV	33	33	3	Happy Days	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy	Andy	Pyle	Acres	Hogan	Hogan	Burnett	P. Mason	
MSG	27	87	78	Pre Game	MLS Soccer Live.			Red Bulls		Joe Judge	MLS Soccer Replay.				
MSG Plus	48	88	80	Wrld Poker	Prime Time Action Live.					Glory Kickboxing					
MSNBC	14	23	103	Ari Melber	The ReidOut		All in with Chris Hayes		Rachel Maddow		Lawrence O'Donnell		The 11th Hour		
MTV	20	53	210	Catfish (R)	Catfish: The TV Show (R)		Catfish: The TV Show		Catfish: The TV Show (R)		Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	
NATGEO	65	162	121	Locked Up	Locked Up Abroad (R)		Locked Up Abroad (R)		Locked Up Abroad		Locked Up Abroad (R)		Locked Up Abroad (R)		
NICK	6	121	252	Loud House	Loud House	Loud House	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Unleashed	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
OWN	173	180	145	Tamron	20/20 on OWN (R)		Casey Anthony		Casey Anthony		Casey Anthony		Casey Anthony		
PARMT	36	56	54	(6:32) Men	Gone in 60 Seconds (2000): A 50-car contract. ★★					Con Air (1997): An airplane is hijacked by inmates. R					
SNY	26	60	77	Yeah ...	Broadway Boxing					Broadway Boxing					
SYFY	17	48	180	Night Before Halloween		Insidious: The Last Key (2018): Childhood home. ★★½			(9:45) It Follows (2015): A discomfiting sexual encounter. R ★★						
TBS	8	39	52	Family Guy	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Full Frontal	Conan	Full Frontal	
TCM	82	41	230	Desire Me (1947): Love for widow. NR ★½			The Best Man (1964): Political scheming. NR ★★					The Last Hurrah (1958): Election issues. NR ★★			
TLC	52	28	139	Hoarding	Secretly Pregnant		Secretly Pregnant		Secretly Pregnant		Secretly Pregnant		Secretly Pregnant		
TNT	3	37	51	(5:30) The A-Team (2010) Liam Neeson.			All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite			Star Wars: Episode I: The Phantom Menace (1999)					
TVLAND	85	34	241	(6:24) Andy	Andy	(7:35) Andy	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	(9:20) Loves Raymond		Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens	Queens	
USA	16	38	50	(6:00) NCIS	NCIS: Missing SEAL.		WWE NXT Live.		The Purge: Anarchy (2014): Struggle to survive. R ★★						
VH1	19	52	217	Witness ★★	B.A.P.S. (1997): A woman poses as rich man's heir.					Diary of a Mad Black Woman (2005): A scary grandmother. ★★½		Witness ★★			
WE	59	42	149	Law & Ordn	Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order: Second life.		Law & Order		
YES	53	89	76	M. Kay	MLS Soccer: New York City FC at Toronto FC. Live.					English Pr. League Soccer: Manchester City at West Ham United.					
EPIX	595	395		Britannia	(7:05) Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan (1982) PG ★★½			NFL		(9:45) NFL: The Grind (R)		Battle: Los Angeles (2011) PG-13 ★★½			
HBO	511	301	400	Ford v ★★½	Burning	(7:45) Real Sports	(8:45) Prometheus (2012): Space expedition. R ★★			(10:50) The Undoing: Tragedy strikes.					
MAX	531	371	420	(6:00) Anna (2019): Feared assassin. R	Winter's Bone (2010): Girl tracks dad. R		(9:40) The Quarry (2020): Criminal drifter. R ★★		Lovely ★★						
SHO	551	321	365	Fried Green Tomatoes		Catch Me If You Can (2002): A master con-man. PG-13 ★★½					Legally Blonde (2001) PG-13 ★★½			Reunion ★★	

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NEW YORK POST



TREVOR NEVER LAND

IN NIGHTMARE SCENARIO
FOR JETS, LAWRENCE HINTS
AT STAYING AT CLEMSON

BRAZILLER,
VACCARO
PAGES 44-45

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2020

NEW YORK POST

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Mookie Betts celebrates after scoring the go-ahead run in the sixth inning as the Dodgers rallied as soon as Kevin Cash pulled Blake Snell despite 5 1/3 brilliant innings. Betts greeted reliever Nick Anderson with a double, the tying run scored on a wild pitch, and Betts, who later homered, raced home on a grounder to first. PAGES 49-45

LA captures first title since 1988, with some help from Cash's crazy quick hook

DODGER THAT!



Getty Images



THE BUBBLE BURSTS

TURNER POSITIVE COVID TEST
REVEALED DURING MLB'S
FINAL GAME / PAGE 47

